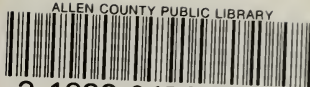


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BOOK NOTES

CONSISTING OF

LITERARY GOSSIP, CRITICISMS OF BOOKS AND
LOCAL HISTORICAL MATTERS CONNECTED
WITH RHODE ISLAND.

VOL. XV.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER INC., 1898.

PROVIDENCE:

SIDNEY S. RIDER. 1898.

1898.

AN INDEX TO PRINCIPAL LOCAL

—AND—

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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

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SATURDAY, Jan. 8, 1898.

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The persistence of the Historical Society in using its *Publications* as a means of perpetuating error, has been often shown by BOOK NOTES, specifically in printing the Sachem's Deed to Williams, with the date 1639, when the Document bears no date whatever. This persistence was still further illustrated by the publication of the late Mr. H. C. Dorr's papers on the Proprietors of Providence—the most false presentation of the acts of the early settlers ever printed. To print such a paper in its “publications” was sufficiently bad; but, to print such a thing in its “collections” after having seen the completeness of their falsity was positively a crime against Rhode Island History.

In its latest issue, that for January, 1898, the society presents a paper on *Indian Geographic Names* by Mr. W. W. Tooker of Sag Harbor, N. Y. On page 204 the “legitimate anxiety which should direct itself to the *preservation of correct news*” is urged; on page 207 the Deeds of land given by the Indians are described as among the “best mediums for studying” their language, and the first R. I. Indian Deed, which is that above mentioned, as being a good example. On page 208, occurs the word *Pautuckgut*, quoting Paine's *Denial* as

his authority. There is no such word in the Deed. The word is *Pontuckgut*; so also is given the word *Notaguncheonet* also giving as authority Paine's *Denial*. There's no such word in the original manuscript; the word is *Notaguncheonet*. Why not apply a bit of linguistic anxiety for the “preservation of correct forms.” Does the Historical Society really believe that in its persistent efforts to fasten fiction into the history of Rhode Island, it will finally overthrow the actualities of history. In May, 1894, BOOK NOTES printed a note on the word *Natick*, a name now applied to a manufacturing village in Rhode Island; and to a locality in Massachusetts; the writer said “Upon a manuscript map of the country around it, now in my possession, made about 1683, the name is spelled *Nachek*. In his key to the Indian language, Williams gives the word *Nekick* as meaning “my home;” it is evident that *Natick* has come down to us from *Nekick*, doubtless an Indian village there when the Englishmen came from across the seas.” In order to overthrow my humble effort the editor of the *Publications* aforesaid printed a note, January, 1895, setting up, in opposition, an opinion by a Town Clerk of a New Hampshire town named Downs; Downs quotes a

person named Potter (a judge) who gave the meaning "*a clearing*;" then follows with Rasle, with Na-t-auke "*a clearing*;" then with a clergyman named Ballard with *Naddock*, "*an interval*;" then comes Downs himself with, "In this place the *grass was cut* (these italics are the Hist. Soc. Pubs.) and timber felled; this shows that there *was* a clearing there, for otherwise there would be no grass, the question is settled, so far as I (Downs) am concerned—*Natick*, means a clearing; but the question does not stay settled; for in its current issue, the Hist. Soc. comes again to it; this time with a note from Mr. W. W. Tooker who "after a full survey" shows that *Natick* means "a place of search."

Let us look for a moment at the utter stupidity of such "learning." Will Mr. Downs and the editor aforesaid inform us how the Indians "cut (down) the grass, and when, and where, such a thing was ever done by them; then will these gentlemen consider for a moment these words, "there was a clearing there." Was there a clearing, then, on this river, and nowhere else below it? The very suggestion of this question suggests the absurdity of the opinion.

The whole land question between Harris and Arnold, and the original proprietors turned upon these meadows along the banks of the Pawtuxet; did not Williams write in Oct. 1677, these words "it might be no offence (to the Indians) if our cows fed up the rivers where nobody dwelt, and home again at night." (Rider's Tract on the Forgeries of the Indian Deed, page 48). Could the cows feed where no grass grew, or did the dwellers on what is now Benefit street drive their cattle to Natick, "a clearing" to pasture. Let us have done with such nonsense; but Mr. Tooker's definition is scarcely less comical; it is delightfully ambiguous, to wit, "a place of search;" was Natick so distinctly a place of search that the Indians

gave to it this specific name, for what did the Indians search there, echo answer what! Mr. Troker's "full survey" failed to take into account the BOOK NOTE of May 1894. It is absolutely conclusive, as Mr. Downs said, of the matter. The only *real knowledge* of the word, exists on the map, or Plat of 1683, thus *Nachek*; it cannot be found in the Colonial Records of R. I., nor in the Early Records of Providence, which town included all the land around it; nor in the writings of any settler of the Colony. This map was drawn by Smith, the surveyor, from Newport a well known man, and careful withal; it presents the first, and, in fact the only known rendering of the word, the phonetic value of it is at once apparent to any scholar. Now does the Editor of the Historical Society suppose that the writer will ever permit such persistent violations of Rhode Island history to pass unchallenged. What, never—well hardly ever.

The wretched work of the Editor, is shown likewise, in the article on "Turk's Head." By a reference to BOOK NOTES vol. 8, page 124, the actual history of this symbol sign will be seen. Now, when publishing Mr. Bailey's paper why not note the later discoveries.

The presentation of a portrait of Mr. Bailey, by the Historical Society, was a well deserved compliment to a scholar who has devoted the years of a long life to historical research.

An account of a decision by Judge Sweetland in a city tax case which was made a few days ago, appears in the *Journal*. If Judge Sweetland made such a decision as the *Journal* stated, he deserves to be displaced from the bench. But Judge Sweetland made no such decision, for the writer has carefully investigated the case and the *Journal's* statement is wholly false.

Now that the railroads have built a line of offices—would it not be well to have a “shed” of some kind set up for the protection of travelers—the greatest swindle ever put upon the people of Providence was this railroad deal. Let the people take away the charters of these companies.

It is really surprising how the death rate in Providence *has fallen* since the introduction of the present sanitary water closet, which the owners obliged us, by a law which they had enacted, to buy whether we wish it, or not. This getting laws enacted to stiffen your private business, is *the business* of the time. But for one I protest against the noisy, useless and expensive tanks which the Plumber's law now obliges us to have. The death rate in each 1000, in the city of Providence, was, in 1885, before the enactment of this statute, 18.3. The rate increased at once to 20.3 to 21.7. The latest printed report is for 1894. What the rate now is, has not been told. Look at the humbug.

Has it never occurred to you to note the similarity of Secretary Gage's currency scheme to that proposed by the late Senator William Sprague and which the *Journal* ridiculed as Sprague's plan of “lending your debts to your creditors.”

The Slingerly banks case is singularly comical. Having a “paper” making a profit of \$243,000 every year under which a debt of nearly \$3,000,000 has been piled up, one half of which is held by the two banks, which as trustee, Slingerly managed; the gentleman now proposes to bond his paper, to pay the three millions. The hair of the dog is to cure the bite.

Something that men call a “man” had loaned to another man the sum of \$230 secured by a mortgage on twelve acres of land upon which stood an occupied dwelling house. The security was con-

sidered ample by the lender of the money. The lender called for his money; the demonetization of silver money had lowered the price of land, which was valued in coin, half our coin having been thrown away. The owner of the property was unable to redeem his debt, so the lender of the money sold out all that the “real owner” owned, to wit, the equity of redemption, buying it himself for \$13. The “*Journal*,” to which paper I am indebted for these facts, says that the property was “widely advertised;” the cost of this advertising, the “*Journal*” says, was 92 cents. Thus the lender of the money has all the property which the farmer had who borrowed the money, and still holds a debt against the eviscerated and evicted farmer of \$217.92 the entire debt, principal and interest, amounting to \$230.

There is a little editorial paragraph in the *Journal* of the 31st ult., which I am sure the *Journal* will gladly lend to BOOK NOTES. Thus: “It begins to look as if the country were (is?) threatened with another talking match between bruisers Fitzsimmons and Corbett; have we really done something to deserve this affliction.” Well, concerning the last affair between these gentlemen, you gave your columns to the length of 20 feet and 10 inches, while to the moral side of the question you gave 3 lines. As a matter of fact were it not for the *Journal* and other such *Journals*, these gentlemen could not talk at all, hence it is the *Journals* which inflict the community with such utterly bad reading.

A correspondent writes this letter:

Of the Merrythought or Wishbone, two conjectures may be noted. Perhaps the “merry thought” consists in striding the “wishbone” across the bridge of the nose. In breaking a wishbone, which should beforehand be well dried, each person takes hold of an end. Both pull. Whichever finds, after breaking the longest limb with the “head” thereof

in his hand, has his wish; both having secretly wished as their fingers grasp the symbol of good luck. If however the head flies off, neither gets his wish. A chicken bone, or turkey bone or goose bone is equally efficacious. Of an innovation, consisting in the loser "drawing" from the winner's hand afterwards, for "the best out of three" trials a long limp twice, it is not essential to speak. Yet this adds fun. The winner, to prepare for this test grasps the two broken ends so that the tips jet just between his finger and thumb longwise laid together, concealing in his hand all but the tips. He who has lost has in this way one more chance to gain his "wish" should he be so lucky as to draw the long limb "twice out of three" times.

H. C.

The art of pretending to say something while in reality saying nothing is cleverly illustrated in the *Journal* of December 13. With flaming head lines it says "Concessions offered to the Manual Training School graduates. The example of Brown & Sharpe is important." (Mr. Sharpe is President of the company which publishes the *Journal*.) Now in what consists this concession. Only in this, "Graduates of the Providence Manual Training School well recommended by the principal, may have their terms of apprenticeship shortened at the discretion of the company." The closing years of an apprentice are of great value to his employer. Of course Brown & Sharpe will slip off these most profitable years (to themselves) and give his time to the apprentice—well it may, but it will be without the usual "discretion" if it does any such thing.

The newspapers are right, reckless clergymen should conform their sermons to suit the code of political or religious morals, which Mr. McKinley at

present, President of the United States affects. Would it not be well for the President, to notify the preachers, that wind, weather and politics permitting, it was his intention to worship God in accordance with the principles of the Mark Hanna Republicans, on the next Sunday with them.

The boy is born who will be as much ashamed to admit that his father was a "protection" tariff advocate, as he would be to admit that his father was a negro slave dealer.

The value of advertising a business in the *Journal* is well shown by the case of the Manufacturer's Outlet Co. This firm wished to advertise in the *Journal*.

Certain large advertisers in that paper informed the *Journal*, that in case it admitted this company's advertisements their patronage should be withdrawn; the *Journal* refused the Outlet Company's advertisements. The result has been that one of these boycotters has failed, and of the others, three large stores have been abandoned, while the stores of the Outlet Company have literally swarmed with buyers. The abandonment of business at the stores of the *Journals* advertisers has been a matter of talk among business men.

The Boston Sunday Herald of the 12th ult. has this,—

"Great fortunes have been made by the rise in the price of wheat in Chicago the past week. Great fortunes have likewise been lost. Later on, the winners may become losers, and the losers winners. It is all a gigantic gambling game, which has no more interest for the general public than any other game of that character."

The price of flour to the laborers at Fall River has been raised 35 per ct., corn 10 per ct., sugar 17 per ct., molasses 9 per ct., pork 33 per ct., mutton 25 per ct., potatoes 100 per ct., wool 100 per ct.

leather 40 per ct., etc., etc. For these figures BOOK NOTES is indebted to the Boston *Herald* November 10 last. The cost of living to a Fall River mill laborer has been increased on these positive necessities of life, on these nine articles by 44 per cent—now clip the fellow wages 10 per cent. and where does he stand, he is clipped at the neck, and at the ankles shortened at both extremities. Now, seriously, has the general public *no interest* in this "gigantic gambling game" as the *Herald* calls the operation. Men will ultimately find it the most serious game at which they have recently played.

Speaking of History in novels, Mr. Paul L. Ford in a recent paper uses some very plain language: in a recent number BOOK NOTES spoke of the smuggling which lay hidden behind the patriotism of the burning of the *Gaspee*, the rudeness of the shock actually disturbed the pious patriotism of our good

Rhode Islanders. What will these people do with Mr. Ford, who speaks like this.

"No American novelist has ventured to write of John Hancock and Jonathan Trumbull as men suspected of smuggling, or of Samuel Adams as a public man who sought, as other officials have done more recently, to vindicate himself from the charge of defalcation by an appeal to the ballots of the masses. Would any American author, striving to write popular fiction, dare to picture one signer of the Declaration as selling the secrets of his country to the French Ministry for a paltry pension, or another taking advantage of information of the need of the Continental cause for wheat to corner the supply at once so far as he was able?"

The time has at last come when men can stand the truth, and a writer who writes it is not necessarily to be sent to the penitentiary.

A set of the Providence *Early Records* is desired by the writer of BOOK NOTES.

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No. 2.

Mashamoquet an Indian Village— Now Pomfret, Conn.

In the *Public Records* of Connecticut (vol. 4, p. 148) there is a record of action by the Court of Election of May, 1695 in the matter of a judgment received by Simion Stodard of Boston, in an action against Major James Fitch. Execution was asked against certain lands, not specified in the record. In these same *Public Records*, vol. 5, p. 152, there occurs a reference to two towns, viz. Durham and Mansfield, and to certain inhabitants of Kellingley, Massamugget and Hebron who were delinquent in paying their taxes. In 1710, Mr. Ebenezer Sabin was commissioned Ensign in the Trainband in the village of Massamugget (v. 5, p. 171). In May, 1713, the General Assembly of Connecticut, on the petition of the inhabitants of Massamugget to be enabled to set up and maintain the worship of God among them, *ordered* that the said inhabitants as soon as they have procured a minister to live and preach among them shall for the space of four years next ensuing, have granted them full power to make rates and raise such sums of money for building a meeting house, minister's house and settlement with his maintenance, as the major part of them shall judge fit; two-thirds of the sum so

raised shall come from a tax on land within the bounds of said Massamugget, and one-third on heads and stocks and other rateable estate * * * it is also ordered that the said Massamugget shall be called *Pomfret*, and the brand for horses shall be this figure "P," (*Public Records of Conn.* v. 5, p. 373). In 1713 the General Assembly of Connecticut was asked to confirm the title to certain lands bought by Jonathan Belcher, of John Blackwell of London, Eng., sometime of Boston, New England, and did confirm it; these lands were along the Quinnebaug river where the Tomonquas river falls into it; lying and being in the Wabbaquassuck country which aforesaid tract is a parcel of a larger tract purchased by the said John Blackwell, the father and others, of Capt. James Fitch of Norwich and called Mashamugket or New Plantation." (*Public Records, Conn.* v. 5, p. 396). Among the earlier names of men dwelling in Pomfret town, was James Sabin, Captain of the Trainband, 1714; Philemon Chandler, who was Lieutenant at the same time, and Leicester Grosvenor, Commissioned Ensign at the same time. Concerning Leicester Grosvenor there is a court entry as early as 1707 wherein he was described as being a resident of Mashamuggett,

In all these later entries the name of the new town is spelled *Pomfrett*. In 1715, upon the application to the General Assembly of Connecticut on the part of "several inhabitants" * * * "leave to gather a church and ordain an orthodox minister" was granted. Religious Liberty had not yet found its way to Pomfret, notwithstanding it was only five or ten miles from Rhode Island.

Mr. Trumbull gives the word *Mashamoquet* in his *Indian Names of Places in Connecticut*. But I do not find the word in this form in the *Public Records*. Mr. Trumbull says it is "a brook which runs through Pomfret, southeasterly and easterly to Quinebaug river, about one and one-half miles north of Brooklyn north line. The name which signifies 'at the great fishing place,' (*massamang-ut*) was given to a large tract 'the Mashamoquet Purchase' on which Pomfret was settled; the lower part of the brook near the Quinebaug was called *Tamoungas* river." Concerning the word *Tamoungas* Mr. Trumbull says "the name properly belonged to an Indian, 'The Beaver,' who lived on, or near this stream, and if so the final *s* is the mark of the English possessive case, thus *Tamoungas's*." There is another brook flowing into the *Massamugget*, the name of which Mr. Trumbull gives, thus, *Wappoquians*. In Hunt's *Historical Discourse concerning Pomfret*, it is stated that "Wappoquian's brook runs by the burying ground in the First Parish and empties into Mashamoquet brook." Mr. Trumbull says "*Wabequian* was a Wabequasset or Nipmuc Indian, a subject of Uncas after Philip's war (1676) and that he witnessed Oweneco's deed to Major James Fitch in 1684."

Mass-a-mugget was an English corruption of the Indian name of the locality, which in 1713 was given by the English, the name *Pomfrett*. Mr. Trumbull writes it Mashamoquet. Williams gives the word, Machemoquet, and the meaning, "It stinks." Is it

not possible that the words were the same, or can the present name *Watchemoket*, be derived from the same source? Trumbull says Mashamoquet means "at the great fishing place." Williams says, Machemoquet means "it stinks." Mr. Trumbull has defined the word "Watchemoquet, cove and brook" as meaning "at the cornfield," this is, as I look at it, indefensible philology.

Tomaquaug is the name of a brook running south through Hopkinton, and emptying into the Pawcatuck river—(see map of 1854.) Dr. Parsons gives the forms *Tommaquaug* and *Tommocweugue* as applied to this same brook. Mr. Denison's *Westerly and its Witenesses* (page 32) gives *Tomaquag* and affixes it to a tract of land at or near Dorrville. This village lies south of the Pawcatuck, in Westerly, directly or nearly opposite the mouth of the *Tomaquaug*. In the Rhode Island census 1885 it is spelled *Tomaquog* (page 58.)

The *Journal* of the 10th inst. has an elaborate editorial on the decreasing death rate in cities in which occurs this paragraph, "Here in Providence the 1897 rate was 18.19 per thousand the lowest recorded since 1885." No such record has now been recorded it is guess work pure and simple. To such base uses the *Journal* has steadily lent its columns.

Mr. Anthony J. Drexel Biddle sends to BOOK NOTES a little package of what were designed for Christmas books, unfortunately they came too late for Christmas uses. The first is entitled "The Flowers of Life." It is a collection of brief essays upon episodes of, or things in close connection to this human life of ours. The second is a collection of character sketches as illustrated in the foreign elements now among us. "Mit friends" as part of them say, or "good afternoon Mrs. Mulhooney" as others speak it, or in

discussing question "a niggahs' skin aint exactly black." The third is a "Second Froggy Fairy Book." The first Froggy Fairy Book is now in its fifth thousand, it has been deemed popular from the moment of its publication; if BOOK NOTES mistakes not, its young brother will speedily follow it.

Mr. Henry L. Greene of Riverpoint, sends to the writer of BOOK NOTES the following *Ode*, and he informs the writer that he was a pupil in Mr. Hiram Fuller's school in 1836, and that he has transcribed the *Ode* from his school journal under the date 14th July, 1836. The *Ode* was printed in the M. and F. Journal, 8th August, 1836, but no authors name therein appears. It is now supplied; there is one verbal change in Mr. Greene's copy thus Mr. Greene read:

"Mooshansic's coast it nears,"
the Journal's copy read:

"Mooshansic now it nears."

The first was an original writing, the last was the result of criticism, and much the better in form.

ODE ON THE SETTLEMENT OF
PROVIDENCE.

By Hiram Fuller.

A lonely boat appears

On Narragansett Bar;

Mooshansic's coast it nears,

The Pilgrim kneels to pray.

What seeks the Patriarch here,

Far from his childhood's home.

To scenes so wild and drear,

Why has that Pilgrim come?

Does England, cruel mother,

Thus spurn her noble child?

Is he,—a Christian brother,—

By Puritans exiled?

In deep, heart rending anguish,

A mother bows her head,

Her houseless children languish,

And cry in vain for bread.

But He who hears the ravens,

And feeds them when they cry,

And clothes the beauteous lilies,

Will heed a mother's sigh.

"The wilderness shall blossom,"

The holy prophet saith,
And naught on earth can waver
That pious Pilgrim's faith.

To God he builds an altar,
He worships Him alone;
And in the savage wilderness,
Finds peace before unknown.

Earth holds his dust in keeping,
Beneath yon hallowed sod:
But the pure heart is sleeping
In the bosom of his God.

Two hundred years! and the magic tide
Of time has floated by;
Now in the bay where that lone boat lay,
Gallant steamers fly;
And on every hill a holy spire,
Is pointing us on high.

May God our children's children bless,
'And hear our prayers for their success.

Mrs. Anna C. Reifsnider has issued a fourth edition of her little book *Gilgal*. It is a little collection of maxims, or axioms, the character of which is illustrated in the subtitle to her book "Stones that pave the path to suc. ess." It is a little book of exceedingly suggestive thoughts.

Martha Phillips, who is the granddaughter of General Nathaniel Greene's youngest daughter, contributes to the January *Century* "Recollections of Washington and His Friends, taken down from the lips of her grandmother. She quotes from a diary of her grandmother, that lady's recollections of her visit, as a child to Gen. Washington. Here are two specimens:

"The second great event of my early life," said she, "was my first interview with General Washington. But a faint suggestion now survives of the love and reverence for Washington which inspired the children of the Revolution. These sentiments were exceptionally strong in my brothers and sisters and myself, because in addition to the sentiment of patriotism was the personal regard we held for Washington as our

father's intimate friend and immediate commander.

"My mother had deeply imbued me with the honor in store, and had drilled my behavior to meet all the probable requirements of the occasion. I was, for example, to rise from my seat for presentation to General Washington, and after tendering him my profoundest courtesy, stand at ease, and modestly answer all his possible questions, but at the same time keep religiously in the background, where all the good little girls of that day were socially referred." The entire article is well worth reading.

The question of landlords in cities is rapidly resolving itself into a question for serious consideration—large numbers of these landlords own no land—they make long leases—or own under heavy mortgages; simply for the purpose of getting money from the public through the shop keepers. These landlords produce nothing nor do they work, they give nothing for the money they take from the public, and nevertheless it is this same public, which alone gives rental value to these city lands. The more we labor the greater the wealth of these landlords. Look one moment at the case of Warren & Wood, and the same firm under successive names; this concern has failed twice, it has paid in rent, taken from the buyers of its goods, the entire cost of the building and the entire cost or, value, of the land at the time when the building was erected. From this time henceforth forever, the owners of this property can, through such tenants, take from the people a sum of money so great that the burdens of life here would be positively unbearable; another case in my immediate neighborhood occurs to me, a prudent, careful man kept a shop for twenty-nine years on the same spot; he made oath before the Tax Assessors last July that he had not \$1,000 in personal property, and showed no real estate; the rent of his shop had been raised from \$700 to

\$1800; when trade was good the rent was raised; when business went down, the rent did not. Now of what use under such conditions, is a prudent, economical, laborious life of twenty-nine years. The business rents of this city need immediate consideration.

The *Journal* says "as a matter of fact reputable newspapers do not indulge in class wars." Well what do you call the work of these "reputable" institutions, in the election of the autumn of 1896, the McKinley election; what is the Dingley tariff but class legislation of the worst type; one manufacturing concern here, owned chiefly by Englishmen, is said to have scooped from the pockets of the American people \$1,500,000 by the 10 cents a pound put on wool; did not the *Journal* labor to make this thing possible. Of course it did—was it not class war—of course it was; in another similar case an owner is said to have "made" a cool million; his mill hands are now on a strike. Those of us, and I am one, who think those things are a terrible oppression, and that the inevitable tending will be towards a revolution, the *Journal* calls "voters who care less for any single economic theory than they do for the general doctrine that it is wrong for other people to be better off than they are, and that something ought to be done to equalize matters." The plain truth is, the *Journal* was established upon this basis of legal robbing; and its conservatism consists in defending the robber. Am I an anarchist Because I think it wrong to *make a law* whereby an English concern can take a million and a half of dollars out of the pockets of the American people, giving absolutely nothing in return for it? Am I an anarchist because I think it an abominable wrong to make a law, under which American Sewing Machines are sold all over Europe for \$25.00, while the American sewing women are forced to pay from \$50.00 to \$75.00 for the same; and yet

this has for years been done. Do you think such things right? When you thought it wrong for Capt. Kidd to be "better off" than "other people." was not your opinion based upon the fact, how did he get "his" money. Under such conditions in what position is the *Journal* for advocating with honesty any financial, or economic question, or to advocate, or permit anybody else to advocate in its columns, any reform in methods of making our laws, or even to admit that any political wrongs exist.

For unmitigated nonsense in type, BOOK NOTES commends you to the musical "criticisms" which the *Journal* prints after certain musical "entertainments" undergone here by a suffering people. A fine specimen of this work was printed Dec. 2d, following a musical concert of the night before. There was not even an elementary critical idea in entire three-quarters of a column. In order to cover his want of thought, the writer uses a lot of meaningless words, conveying positively no idea to those who read the *Journal*. What idea would be conveyed to the common

Rhode Island mind, by the phrase "the style of tonality" or what would such a mind understand by "the thematic material" of the music, positively nothing. As a matter of fact the writer could not himself explain in intelligible English the meaning of his words. Again he speaks of "the numbers played," but says nothing of "the numbers sung." Now why not write common sense or write nothing. Not a word was said either, in commendation of the work of the director nor in criticism. Not a word is said of the work of the chorus, nor is a word said concerning the quality of the voices of the solo singers, nor of their methods; in fact there was not a word of genuine musical criticism in the entire paper. It was exactly the same with the Arion Concert, a few days since. Now all this is worse than useless nonsense, it positively hurts; there can be no such thing as the cultivation of a genuine love for good music here under such work, nor is any accurate power to render said music engendered. The *Journal's* articles are worse than innocuous, they are actually destructive.

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SATURDAY, Feb. 5. 1898.

VOL. 10
No. 3.

The Providence *Journal of Commerce* for January has this, taken from *Printers Ink*, "Newspaper enterprise was not unknown in this country sixty years ago—when it was known * * that Webster would reply to Hayne, arrangements were made by the New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Providence newspapers to have relays of fast horses between Washington and Providence; but according to an interesting tradition which is worth recording, the Providence papers showed the most enterprise; they placed on board a steamer, frames, cases and compositors so that on the arrival of the steamer at Providence, the speech was in type and ready to be printed." This story *Printers' Ink* took, or says that it took, from a book "soon to be published" by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. entitled the "*Great Debate Between Hayne and Webster*" prepared by Leonard Swift of the Boston Public Library. This story interested BOOK NOTES so much that it has verified the story with the usual success, which means that there is scarcely a single true statement in it.

Mr. Webster's second speech in reply to Mr. Hayne was delivered at Washington, D. C., January 26, 1830. It was issued in an "Extra" *Providence Daily Journal*, Saturday, 27 February, at 5

o'clock P. M. But it was not entire. The entire speech occupies 24 columns of the *Journal*; eleven columns were published in this "Extra." Monday, March 1st, and Tuesday March 2d, these eleven columns were reprinted in the *Journal*, but the last portion comprising upwards of twelve columns, did not appear until March 4th, thirty seven (37) days after delivery. The editor of the *Journal* says (March 1st), the anxiety to see the speech "induced us at great labor and expense to publish it on Saturday in an extra sheet," * * * "the second part of the speech will probably arrive here this evening, and we shall lose no time in laying it before the public." The editor says (March 2), the "*Intelligencer* of Thursday, due last evening, did not arrive by mail. The Southern papers contain three additional columns of Mr. Webster's speech which will be found in another part of this paper." The *Rhode Island American* published the speech in two issues, March 2d and 5th. The types were specially set, and were not those used by the *Journal* on the same day. The editor of the *American* confirms the *Journal*, saying the "Washington papers of Thursday were not received last night (Monday, March 1st). An 'Extra' *Journal of Commerce* contains two

and a half columns in continuation from the *Intelligencer*, but one copy having been secured in that city." Since this note was written, BOOK NOTES is in receipt of the following letter from the publishers:

BOSTON, Jan. 29, 1898.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider,
Providence, R. I.

Dear sir:—We thank you for your courteous letter of January 27 in regard to a note published by us headed Newspaper Enterprise in 1830. This was made up from a proof of one of the pages of a book which is to contain Hayne's Speech. When the proof came back from the editor, however, he changed his statement, having evidently looked it up more carefully. The book is not yet out but will be in a few days, when it will give us pleasure to send you a copy. We have forgotten exactly what change was made by the editor, but think that his statement has now been made accurate.

Yours very truly,
Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
H. N. W.

The *Journal* of the 20th ult. has half a column on the Warwick Mills at Jericho. The *Journal* says that notwithstanding the increased cost which a tariff places upon cotton cloth this mill "is able to find a market in competition with English goods;" and the *Journal* also says that "notwithstanding that reducing wages of the operatives has been general among New England cotton manufacturers advantage has not been taken by this corporation to add to its profits."

The imperative necessity of reducing the wages of mill laborers at New Bedford is shown by the dividends paid by these mills to their stockholders, (who were not laborers) in 1897. The Acushnet paid 16 per cent., the Bristol 5 per cent., the Hathaway 10 per cent.,

the Grinnell 9 per cent., the Pierce 6 per cent., the Wamsutta 6 per cent. Omitting the mills wrecked by Howland and Hadley, and one mill where a "shortage" of some \$400,000 had to be made good, the New Bedford mills paid an average dividend to the stockholders of 8 per cent. Of course wages must be clipped, while the cost of living was raised, in order to make the average dividend at least equal to the Acushnet's 16 per cent. Starvation will ultimately bring these "anarchists" to a sense of their political condition—perhaps.

There came to BOOK NOTES a circular from the *Metaphysical Club* of Boston, with the heading "Modern Sensationalism," followed by a few paragraphs, of which the following is one—under the light of this trenchant paragraph survey one week of the issues of the *Providence Journal*.

"Everything grows by what it feeds upon, and positively, even if by unconscious degrees, takes on its quality. The law of suggestion and the certain tread of familiarization are no less sure in their working than is any principle in physics or mathematics. If, as is well known, the sanest minds cannot immerse themselves in a perverted environment without taking on a little of its slime and abnormality, what shall be said of unnumbered weak, immature, youthful and unsymmetrical natures who delve into a foul atmosphere which they inhale, absorb and become saturated with? What myriads of unbalanced minds dwell near the boundary line of some great temptation, crime, or disorder, who need but a little suggestive push to land them in the domain of overt action? What an abnormal gloating over horrors, and a morbid itching for notoriety is kindled! A thousand good deeds receive no mention, but a crime is held aloft, magnified, spread

out and turned about in the light, until it fills the mental horizon, and gradually becomes familiar, then natural, and finally almost inviting.

Pif, paf, pouf. The paucity of thematic material is doubtless the matter with the *Journal's* musical "puffs" of concerts. Tonemup gentlemen, explain the *genuine* "style of tonality," to the end that we may know the thing which is genuine from the sham style. The way in which to educate the musical taste in Providence is not by these sham puffs, but by an acute criticism of that which is bad, and showing how it might be made better.

A friend sends us the *Monetary Times* of Dec. 24, published at Toronto, Ont., Canada, from which we clip this remarkable exhibit.

"As showing how Montreal now tops New York as a cheese shipping port, it should be gratifying to all Canadians to know that the shipments of cheese from Montreal this season reached the immense total of 147,000,000 lbs., as compared with New York's eleven months' shipments of 45,141,000 lbs."

It requires something more than admission to the Bar, to make an acute and accurate analyst of facts and conditions, out of a man. The word "Lawyer" is too often the synonym of corruption, of trickery and of treachery; the public has yet to deal with these men.

If that which the cotton mill owners say is true concerning the cotton manufacturing industry here in New England, and the relation of Southern cotton manufacturing companies to the question, about how much more is the owner's note worth with the mill as assets, than the note of a Tariff ruined bookseller. Perhaps men will yet come

to some proper sense in political morals. Observe the words of the *Journal*,--

The *Journal* of the 18th inst. says: "Much of the capital now employed in the manufacture of cotton goods must be turned to new enterprises, unless it should gradually dawn upon the stockholders that family feuds and intestine wars are always indications of a low state of civilization." Hence the low price of cotton cloth indicates a low state of civilization. By the way whose capital is it that is now employed. But for some "family feud," cotton cloth would rise in price, would it? If that is not logic what is it?

The California Wines are advertized in BOOK NOTES. No wines sold in Providence are equal to them in purity, of quality, and Mr. Thomas L. Mitchell who sells them, is a man whose word is as good as his bond.

The *Journal* of the 20th ult. presents the portrait of Mr. F. C. Graves. The reasons given for presenting us with a portrait of this gentleman were: that "he is the manager of a bicycle store; that "this establishment on Westminster street marked a departure;" that "he paid the largest rent;" that "for two years it was a success." If these are not good reasons why the public should take an interest in this young gentleman's portrait, what can be.

There is no better drinking water brought into Providence than that from the Girard Spring, which is advertised in BOOK NOTES, and it is delivered at just half the price at which other waters are sold.

Collier's Weekly comes in a new and very beautiful attire, and a new contributor appears, to wit, Blanche Willis Howard, an exceedingly bright mind. In this number Julian Hawthorne frees his mind concerning the latest turn of the Trefus affair; election of Senator

Hanna, and the ways of certain revivalists. Some writers dip their pens in gall, but Mr. Hawthorne's inkstand seems to contain a solution of dynamite.

Cuba, Hawaii, and China furnish the topics discussed editorially in the *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for February. There are also a few paragraphs of comment on current domestic politics—the factional differences among Ohio Republicans and the swelling tide of Crokerism in the Democratic party. The editor gives his views on Tammany's attitude toward the New York rapid-transit problem and on the reckless expenditure of canal-improvement funds by the Republican bosses of the State.

High thoughts and noble in all lands
Help me; my soul is fed by such.
But ah, the touch of lips and hands—
The human touch!

Warm, vital, close, life's symbols dear—
These need I most, and now, and here..

—By Richard Burton, in the *February Century*.

Hold this little poem before you while you read in this morning's (Feb. 2) *Journal*, how the editor with the assistance of Mr. Edward Atkinson endeavors to show that an adult man or woman can live here on \$1.38 per week. Hence all that the mill owner pays the laborer over \$1.50 per week, is just so much out of the dividends. The question seems to be to discover the lowest wage to which men can be forced without utter destruction.

There is nothing that contributes so much to our human happiness as the making of home attractive. Four special pages in the February *Ladies Home Journal* are devoted to explaining the way to make the home attractive. One treats of "The Draping and Dressing of Beds," another of "Buying and Arranging Bric-a-brac," a

third tells "How to Make Attractive Screens," and a fourth is on "Doing Bamboo Work at Home." The illustrations make the task of following out the instructions a very easy one, so the articles are certainly practical and useful.

The evils of bargain sales are shown in the February *Woman's Home Companion*. Bargain hunting demoralizes the purse, the conscience and business; strange inconsistencies and perversions are revealed in the feminine character when a woman becomes addicted to bargain hunting, according to Carrie E. Garrett, in this article "The Bargain Mania."

It is a political abomination to elect a Board of Registration consisting of three men wholly from one party, the Republican. Why not put one honest Democrat upon it.

When the Rev. Floyd Tompkins enters the home of a person who is sick, he shall say "Peace be to this house and to all that dwell in it." Then Mr. Tompkins shall say, "O Lord look down from heaven, behold, visit and relieve this thy servant. Look upon him with the eyes of thy mercy, give him comfort and sure confidence in thee, defend him from the danger of the enemy and keep him in perpetual peace and safety." Then "the sick person shall answer, all this I steadfastly believe." And this thing these two men can do with no offence to the Rhode Island statute. But suppose that Mr. H. S. Taft, a member of the same church of which the Rev. Mr. Tompkins is pastor, were to do that which Mr. Tompkins did for a sick person, it becomes an offence under the Rhode Island statute and Mr. Taft goes forth to prison. *Vive la justice.*

Were men not able to demonstrate the fact, how many regular physicians

would admit, that notwithstanding all impediments in the way of flesh, we can photograph a man's skeleton, the man being yet alive? Not one. How then can one of these men deny the power, or from positive knowledge deny the effect of a human thought of one mind upon the brain which is the source of the mind, in the head of another? In very truth, the power of thought over other minds than that of the thinker, has been so often demonstrated in the history of men, that it seems strange that any educated man still lives to question it.

Mr. Edwin D. Mead, editor of the *New England Magazine*, discusses in his editor's table the question of the relation of street railways to municipalities, going over in this connection the story of the opposition to the introduction of Cochituate water into Boston,

showing that the opposition to municipal ownership and control of public conveniences sixty years ago was just the same as it is to-day.

The same showing appears in Providence; it was years before men could agree to bring a *supply of water* into the city; it was years before a *public school* could be permitted to be established; it was years before the old town could be turned into a city; it was years before men would substitute a constitutional government for the obsolete charter of Charles the Second.

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SATURDAY, Feb. 19, 1898.

VOL. 16
No. 4.

The Measure of Punishment for Crime in Rhode Island.

The measure of punishment for crime is a question which has engaged the attention of some of the ablest men and women of modern times. How much, and how administered, for certain crimes is the question; first the measure, second the method, of punishment. The theory of punishment is not that of retribution, but rather from the supposed deterrent quality to be derived; men are punished in order to induce other men to refrain from falling into the same courses as were followed by the person punished. The efforts of John Howard, and at a later period, of Elizabeth Fry, to ameliorate the severities or barbarities inflicted upon prisoners a century ago, both in England and in this country, are trite words to English readers, but the efforts of those who first suggested and then urged a revision of the measures of punishment, are less well-known.

The first person in modern times to call attention to the barbarities of governments in the punishment of crimes was the Marquis of Beccaria, an Italian philosophical writer, who published in 1764 his celebrated *Treatise*; it is beyond question that never did so small a

book bring about so great a reform. The principles laid down by Beccaria were immediately accepted by every European government, even Catherine the Second placed the *Treatise* entire in the Russian code, and it was translated even into modern Greek. The seed, however, which germinated in Beccaria, was planted by another, and not less great a thinker, Montesquieu, a French baron, who published his *Spirit of the Laws* in 1748. Well might Voltaire have written commentaries on these books, for they were the universal codes of humanity.

While the governments of the world were advancing in this humanizing direction, the government of Rhode Island was either retrograding, or holding back. The criminal code of Rhode Island which in 1647 was a model of excellence, far beyond the age, had become in 1835 a masterpiece of brutal wrong. The government by the General Assembly from the year 1842 backward, had been a government of stolid conservatism: one continual tale of an unlawful usurpation of power, and just as steady a story of intrigue or refusal to make any efforts at political, legislative or judicial reformation; thus was perpetrated a political crime which kept Rhode Island from any advancement

in any material or in any intellectual way whatsoever for many years. This political pall was lifted in 1842; and the judicial pall, while it was not wholly lifted until that same year, had nevertheless experienced some advantageous changes in the five or seven years preceding. The people of Rhode Island had long condemned the system, but the General Assembly could be neither educated nor moved to action. When the modern state prison came in 1838, the infamous criminal code of Rhode Island went out. It certainly cannot fail to be interesting, and it may not be unprofitable to look back for a moment at the provisions of this barbarous code, and study it in the light of such personal illustrations as we may easily fall upon. It was in 1826 that Captain Starbuck sailed in his sloop along the Narragansett Bay on a trading voyage to Providence; on his arrival here he discovered that a roll of bank bills, of the old state banks, had been stolen from his cabin; his suspicions rested on a man on board the sloop who had served as an assistant, by name, Obadiah Gorton. So Obadiah was arrested and taken to the old jail on Canal street, after detention for some days, and no evidence being found, Obadiah was set free; but a little while later somebody in the jail while using a cake of soap, discovered the roll of bank bills which Capt. Starbuck had lost, in a cavity within the cake. So Obadiah was again arrested and confessed the fact; he had bored a hole in the cake and plugged with soap the money within it; but forgot when discharged to take the cake with him. Obadiah was sentenced to restore the money, to be whipped thirty-nine stripes on his naked back, and to be imprisoned fifteen months.

It was in 1829 that Brenton Bartlett was accused, tried, and convicted of setting fire to a cotton mill in Cumberland belonging to Smith Arnold and Waldo Earle. The sentence was: 1st, imprisonment for some years; 2d, his ears

were both to be cropped; 3d, a letter B was to be branded on his cheek with a hot iron; 4th, he was obliged to stand in the pillory for a certain time. The only part of this sentence which was ever inflicted was imprisonment. The General Assembly remitted the other parts. This was also the case with Obadiah Gorton. The statute imposed upon the courts the duty of imposing specific sentences, the court had no discretion generally; but whenever the court had discretion it did not impose these corporal sentences, and whenever obliged by statute to impose them, the court fixed the time for infliction sufficiently far ahead that the General Assembly could have an opportunity for remitting, and this was almost uniformly done. When whipped the convict was lashed to a whipping post in the court house yard on North Main street, while the sheriff applied the "cat." Whenever the ears were clipped the smallest piece was taken off. When branded, a spot was selected which could soon, or already was covered with a growth of hair. Such an amelioration of infliction was entirely the effect of public sentiment. Whenever a judge imposed such a sentence, he stated that under the statute he was obliged to do so. The General Assembly continued to resist, until such things became intolerable—then came the Dorr war. Malbone Briggs seems to have been the crack bank burglar of the time; he seems to have operated outside of Rhode Island. In an old Worcester newspaper I find an account of one James Briggs, a noted Rhode Island rascal. The writer says that Briggs had been convicted and punished for various crimes such as forgery, counterfeiting, etc. in Rhode Island "under the ferocious penal code of that antiquated little republic; both of his ears have been cropped, and his face has been branded several times; his head now looks maimed, disfigured and hideous. To conceal his deformity in part

he has cultivated to full maturity a vigorous growth of whiskers so that neither the loss of his ears, nor the wounds on his cheeks are observed by strangers." The Briggs family of that time furnished many subjects for the courts here. At a little later period the Hicks family supplied the greatest number of great criminals, these were chiefly murderers; Albert Hicks the Pirate, who was hanged in New York, was the latest specimen.

As late as January, 1835, the Statute of Rhode Island provided the death penalty for six crimes, to wit, murder, arson, rape, robbery, burglary, and petit treason. This last crime, under the English law, consisting of the killing of a master by his servant, a husband by his wife, a superior religious by a secular, or by a religious man. These crimes were then, and have always in the United States been regarded in law like any other murder, and punished accordingly. Hence the absurdity of the Rhode Island Statute.

If a man killed, with malice, his wife, his crime was only murder. But if a woman killed her husband, it was *petit* treason. The statutes were filled with the most contradictory or incongruous provisions. The law of 1822, and until the revision of the code, provided a fine and imprisonment for "unlawfully" cutting another "with intention to maim or disfigure a person;" but lawfully, cheeks could be branded with hot irons, ears crompt, and backs lacerated. Blasphemy was a crime, but the laws do not state what blasphemy was. To swear profanely was a crime, costing the swearer fifty cents; it was cheap enough.

Until January, 1838, the punishment for stealing a horse, which was made a specific offence, was a fine not more than \$1000, and imprisonment not more than three years, and whipping not exceeding 100 stripes. It required forty years of agitation to force the General Assembly to change these things; the people

were ready for the change in 1796, and urged its being done, but the Assembly resisted, and the people could not overthrow the General Assembly until 1842, when all these things were changed.

The consideration of these matters leads BOOK NOTES to recall a sentence imposed upon a boy by Judge Wilbur. Two boys, brothers 16 and 18 years of age were indicted and sentenced without trial, one for three years, the other for four years in the State Prison. I quote from the *Evening Bulletin*, 1st October, 1895. "The court sentenced Marshall (Carter) to four years and Arthur, to three years in prison. The former receiving the greater sentence because of his having passed a significant glance at the other prisoners." The boy, addicted to evil practices, made an involuntary contortion of the facial muscles at his sentence, and it cost him a year in the State Prison. He was powerless either to prevent or to help himself. Where in the Rhode Island statutes is the power given to a judge to impose such a sentence for such an offence—which was not an offence. This incident is a sufficient reason for considering the Measure of Punishment for Crime in Rhode Island.

The Vital Record of Rehoboth, Mass., is a handsome royal octavo volume of 926 pages, prepared by Mr. James N. Arnold. It covers the period 1642 to 1896, or, in fact to 1897, for a supplement containing the record of 1896 is contained in the volume. It presents all the marriages, intentions of marriages, births and deaths which the record of the town contains. But the compiler has gathered from other sources historical lists of much interest. These lists comprise the early proprietors; the soldiers in Philip's war; the soldiers in the war of the Revolution; and all colonial returns. The importance of the book for genealogical studies will thus readily be seen.

The following case illustrates a condition set forth in BOOK NOTES a short time since, how these mercantile Agencies could produce the results which they chronicle.

WARRENSBURG, Mo., Feb. 6.—By a verdict of a jury last night Minter Bros. get judgment for \$27,000 against Bradstreet's Commercial Agency.

In 1890 Minter Brothers were large retail dealers at Sedalia. Warran Parmele, an attorney, Bradstreet's reporter at that place, reported to the agency that the firm was insolvent. A business failure followed and Minter Brothers alleged that it was due to an unjust rating.

In 1891 suit was brought by the Minter firm against Bradstreet's for \$100,000 damages. The case came to Johnson County on a change of venue in 1894, and a judgment for \$30,000 was given. The award was set aside by the Supreme Court and the case remanded for trial, with the result above stated.

A private letter from West Mitchell, Iowa, the best wheat growing spot in these United, has been shown to BOOK NOTES. Look at the prices which the farmers are getting for their crops: Wheat, 75c., Oats 18c., Corn 18c., Barley 16c. to 25c. Somebody is now making the Eastern laborer pay for bread at the rate of \$1.00 to \$1.15 per bushel for wheat; corn is in Providence, 35c.; the Rhode Island farmer pays 30c. for oats, for which the western farmer gets only 18c. This is not smartness, neither is it skill—it is robbery—and it is a kind of robbery compared to which, the robberies of Capt. Kidd were unspotted honesty.

Mr. F. C. Graves, whose portrait was recently engraved and published by the *Journal* sends word to BOOK NOTES that the kindly mention by it of this "portrait," was the best advertisement that he has ever had. Thanks. We always

knew the value of BOOK NOTES as an advertising medium. Doubtless Mr. Graves calculates the value of the advertisement by the increased number of bicycles that *he has sold during the past two weeks*, and also from the fact that before the publication of the paragraph Mr. Graves *had abandoned* the stores where for two years he had "paid the largest rent;" the paragraph has enabled Mr. Graves or somebody else, to continue to occupy the abandoned shop. The real road to success is to advertise in BOOK NOTES.

It was a downright manly paper (only too short), which Dr. Harold Metcalf of Wickford R. I. contributed to the Atlantic Medical Weekly of 12th February, 1898. It gave some amusing instances of his own mistakes in diagnosis—but how anybody can become angry with an honest physician, because some subtle symptom of disease has escaped his diagnosis, is beyond comprehension. That which we detest is sham wisdom; a pretention of knowledge, which when understood, proves to be nothing else than rotund ignorance.

BOOK NOTES pointed last week to a paragraph printed by the editor of the *Journal*, in which the editor aforesaid observed that an adult laborer could live (but not at the Hope Club) for \$1.38 per week. The absurdity of this large estimate appears from this menu, the restaurant is on Exchange Place—*Breakfast*, baked beans, bread and butter, water, toothpick, .05; *dinner*, beef hash, bread and butter, water, (a different) toothpick, .05; *supper*, griddle cakes, butter, with syrup, Pawtuxet (unfiltered) water and a (still different) toothpick, .05. Total for seven days, \$1.05, upon which a discount of .14, fourteen per cent. is given, making the net sum for which cotton mill operatives can be kept in condition for work .905 for seven

days. Now why pay \$6.00 and then make such a paltry cut as 10 per cent.? Variety can be had by changing the times of the baked beans.

The annual report of the trustees of the Rogers Free Library has been recently published; it is a straightforward and excellent document; it states the facts, ugly as they are, exactly as they are, and then says that "they regard this inordinate demand for amusing or sensational reading as a condition to be deplored." These are the figures—circulation 20,475, of which fiction (exclusive of poetry) was 17,083. All other books, including philology, philosophy, fine arts, natural science, poetry, literature, theology, useful arts, travels, history, biography, sociology, and miscellaneous, 3,392. The trustees say that this percentage, 83.43, "is the largest yet reached." It is not the fault of the trustees, but the situation is terrible. These libraries are simply breeders of novel readers. The numbers increase year by year; why should the state tax men, in order to furnish novels for these weak minds, to grow weaker by reading.

What a terrible illustration of the practice of the law at the bar of Rhode

Island is that shown by the case against Mr. J. E. Goldworthy. He was expelled just as he ought to have been served; but how many such men are there at this bar, practicing upon honest men. BOOK NOTES has in preparation the extraordinary (to me) treatment of Ellen Cosgrove, in which an honest woman owning an estate in fee simple with no debt nor incumbrance of any kind, was "robbed" of it by the law, set out of her own home into the street; sent insane, as indeed well she might have been, to the State Asylum at Howard, where she died. All the details of this horrible legal outrage, BOOK NOTES will presently set forth in plain and simple English, in order that men and women may see the uses of the laws, of lawyers and of courts to the people. Personally the writer has been concerned, directly and indirectly, with four lawsuits, always defendant; every one was fraudulent, and in every case the plaintiffs were beaten; but Ellen Cosgrove did not know the ways of the law, and hence lost the savings of a life time, and even life itself, no friendly hand interposing.

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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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SATURDAY, Mar. 5, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 5.

Perhaps you think that you are not interested in matters of natural History; but in case you are not so interested, you are the single individual in this country who is not. Let BOOK NOTES call your attention to a very curious, most interesting, and extremely valuable book recently published by Studer Brothers, New York City, upon this subject. It is entitled "Chapters on the Natural History of the United States," by Dr. R. M. Shufeldt, who, for many years, was associate Zoologist at the Smithsonian Institution. The book is not a treatise, in form, of any single section of Natural History, but it is, just what the first word in the title indicates, "chapters" upon all sections, mammals, birds, fishes, insects, reptiles and very curious and interesting chapters they are. The purpose of the author was to write scientifically accurate, and at the same time without unnecessary technicality, in order that a common reader might comprehend the story and be interested by it, and not so benumbed by dry details as to drop it altogether, in this consists the art of the author, it is not that he knows so much more than anybody else, but he has hit happily upon a plan to inveigle you into his own domain. Of equal or possibly more value than the

literary structure, is the plan of illustrations, for illustrations in a book of this character are indispensable. These illustrations of which there are 130 are photographs from real (living, wherever possible) objects, by Dr. Shufeldt himself and then reproduced by the recently developed wonderful processes, and printed upon plate paper; such processes produce perfect presentations of subjects and the eye assists the mind in comprehension. BOOK NOTES would gladly give you specimens, but it cannot, and more skill would be required in making an adequate synopsis than the writer possesses. You must read the book. It is a royal octavo of about 400 pages, beautifully printed, and sells for \$3 50. You have no idea how ignorant you are in these matters, but read this book and see for yourself, how an eel will leave an unhealthy pond, across the land, to another, healthier pond; how a tree toad will leap three feet at a single jump in a high tree, and hit the precise point, for which he started; how a lizard can, apparently at will, assume one or even two colors, and that in agility a lizard is quite the equal of a squirrel; how a chameleon can capture a butterfly and what he will do with him when captured; how the European cuckoo never makes a nest of

her own, and how our American cow blackbird does likewise; these are but specimens of which the book contains hundreds, as a matter of fact the chapters on birds and the nests of birds are alone worth all that the book costs.

A little book came to Book Notes entitled the "New Philosophy of Health," written by Harriet B. Bradbury; from it we take this paragraph "the Healer simply holds in mind with great tenacity for perhaps ten or fifteen minutes an image of the patient as he should be; this image, by the process known as thought transference, is impressed upon the sick man's mind as a possibility, when his own strong desire, seizing it, is able to reproduce it as an actuality."

"We feel when we pray that we must induce God to change his attitude toward us, in reality it is our attitude that needs to be changed * * get away from all noise and confusion of thought and become receptive, so that the Holy Spirit can speak to you * * this means relaxation of every nerve and fibre of your being * * when you can realize such relaxation for one moment, seize upon the condition and try to hold it, rest in it, enjoy it; a beneficial change is then going on in your body, and it will continue just as long as you can hold yourself in this receptive condition."

These extracts from Miss Bradbury's little book set forth the belief of the Christian Scientists. Were you to ask Miss Bradbury's advice in a case of a broken arm, she would say call a surgeon and set the limb, and then put in practice the rules set forth above. Who can deny that they would assist a man with a broken arm? In a state bordering upon nervous prostration you call a "regular" who injects hypodermically a little warm water in your arm allowing you to think the while that morphine is being used. You get well. Another, in the same condition, calls a

Christian Scientist, who quietly sits down and "controls" the mind of the patient along the lines above, and the patient recovers. Now which was the better, the "regular," with the swindle, or the latter without the swindle? And yet here in Rhode Island to-day it is an indictable offence to do the latter, while the former has the protection of the statute. In Massachusetts two hundred years ago they hanged Mary Dyer for practicing her religious belief in that colony; Rhode Island has certainly improved upon such "punishments," she only sends a Christian Scientist to prison, or makes him pay in fines.

Is the fraudulent injection of warm water under the patient's belief that it is morphine, and his recovery, a case of cause and effect? Did you ever know a Christian Scientist to undertake the cure of a case of small pox? No? well I never did. Did you ever know of a case of cirrhosis of the liver, the cure of which was undertaken by a Christian Scientist? No? Well the Christian Scientist, if honest, will tell men, that lives lived in accordance with their principles will *never have* such a disease. The writer of this note is neither a Christian Scientist, nor a "regular," but he believes in searching for the true, the beautiful and the good in all things. Miss Bradley's little book is extremely well written, brief, and to the point; the young woman is educated, yet unpretending, and her book is filled with fine thoughts, thoughts which detached, every educated man will approve.

The Supreme Court in a unanimous decision has declared the claim of the so-called tribe of Narragansett Indians to great tracts of land on the southern coast of this state untenable and without foundation. Twice the writer of BOOK NOTES has been asked to give an opinion upon this matter, without compensation and has done so. This Court upholds the writer's opinion.

The Rhode Islander, published at East Providence and edited by B. F. Evans and Mrs. Mary Frost Evans, made its issue for February 22 and 26 a "National University Number." It is not generally known that Washington left by will an endowment in land and securities for the establishment of a National University. The "securities" did not prove to be secure, but the land remains, and concerning it Mrs. Evans says: "Washington left, as his bequest 19 acres of ground, now owned by our government, and held for this purpose.

It has always been known as 'University Square,' in Washington, D. C. Washington also left twenty-five thousand dollars in shares of the Potomac Co., as an endowment fund, but owing to unforeseen circumstances, they have become worthless; but the land remains and now it is proposed by the women of America, with the endorsement of the National Committee of one hundred, of which Ex-Governor John W. Hoyt, is Chairman, and the Executive Council, which is headed by Chief Justice M. W. Fuller, to aid in the advancement of this magnificent work by the "erecting of a building, which shall be known as the George Washington Memorial, to be used as an administrative building of this University."

In order to awaken public interest in the enterprise, a committee of most excellent Rhode Island women have been selected, covering the entire state. These women are so well and widely known that interest in their work is at once enlisted. Here they are:

Charlotte F. Dailey, Chairman, Providence, Mrs. H. R. Chace, Treasurer, Providence, Miss Mary A. Greene, Providence, Mrs. Gustav Radeke, Providence, Mrs. Howard Richmond, Providence, Miss Ellen Dodge, Providence, Mrs. M. F. O. Evans, East Providence, Mrs. A. Livingston Mason, Newport, Mrs. Alexander, Newport, Mrs. Thomas W. Chace, East Greenwich, Mrs. Edwin R. Allen, Westerly, Mrs. Richard J. Barker, Tiverton, Miss Alice E. Carr, Warren, Mrs. Susan A. Ballou, Woonsocket.

And in all their efforts BOOK NOTES wishes them unbounded success.

The Robert Clark Company of Cincinnati issue a prospectus asking subscriptions for a *True History of the Missouri Compromise and its Repeal*, by Mrs. Archibald Dixon. The book will not be published until a sufficient number of copies have been subscribed for to cover the cost. It will be an octavo volume about 600 pages, price \$4.00. This book is of first-class historical interest; here are the opening sentences:

The Act of 1820, known as the Missouri Compromise, was the first surrender of the great vital principle of political equality between the States of the American Union, and the first authorized demarcation of a sectional line between them; this line was drawn by Congress itself, was its first interference with the rights of the people of the States in the territories of the United States, and was an exercise by Congress of powers not delegated to that body under the Constitution.

The Repeal of that Act (or rather a portion of it), in 1854, meant the restoration of that lost equality; the elimination of that line and of sectionalism; the restoration to the people of their just rights, and the annulment of that arbitrary exercise of power; and was dictated by the loftiest patriotism and the purest love of country.

The history of the Missouri Compromise included the cause of the late war between the States. That cause was slavery. Darkly and in bold relief stands out in the records of the past hundred years as the point whence all sectional jealousies and hatreds were concentrated.

In the department entitled "The Progress of the World" the editor of the *American Monthly Review of Reviews* reviews the De Lome incident, the Maine disaster, the Zola trial, and other important developments of the month at home and abroad. There is also in this editorial summary an interesting discussion of the changed position of the Republican party on the money question.

"Watch My Smoke!"



This singularly suggestive picture was sent to BOOK NOTES by the *American Economist*, a weekly publication "devoted to the Protection of American Labor and Industries" chiefly industries—his prosperity ends in smoke—and that is just where the tariff has landed the laborer.

The fact that an American book, devoted to what is popularly known as the "New Thought," has been translated into classical Chinese, and is having a considerable circulation in China, does not bear out the common impression that that nation is dead to all progress.

The work referred to is "Ideal Suggestion," by Henry Wood, published in Boston by Lee and Shepard. The translation was made by an English gentleman, Prof. John Fryer, who for nearly thirty years was in charge of the Imperial Government Department for the Translation of Scientific Books, and who also established the Chinese Scientific Book Depot, Shanghai. The latter institution has many branches in different parts of the empire. Professor Fryer, two years ago, accepted the chair of Oriental Languages and Literature in the University of California. In a late letter to Mr. Wood he says, "the book

has become popular among the enquiring and thinking classes." He believes that it may be educationally useful in helping to cure those who are afflicted with the suicidal opium habit.

The remark attributed to a former American minister to China, that "There are thousands of Ralph Waldo Emersons in the empire," may be more exact than usually has been supposed.

There came a few days since to the writer a letter written to him, in 1890 by Claudius B. Farnsworth, late of Pawtucket, and a package of scarce pamphlets, wrapped and addressed. Two messages from the dead, for my former friend is no longer living; the letter relates partly to a discussion of the word "tithingmen," then recently printed in these BOOK NOTES, and is an exceedingly neat criticism upon an expression used by Arnold (*Hist. R. I.*, v. 2, p. 161); in discussing the question of taxing the people of Swansea for the support of a clergyman of the established church, Mr. Arnold says: "it was another infringement upon the chartered rights of the people." Mr. Farnsworth points out that Swansea held no charter—that one corporation could not charter another corporation—hence Plymouth could not grant a charter to the people of Swansea, and hence there could not be a violation of chartered rights. The writer regrets that this letter so acute and so correct, could not have reached him at the time of the discussion.

The opera, the *Barber of Seville*, in Infantry Hall, at \$3.50 per seat, must have been a temptation to all lovers of the divine art here in Providence. Then to cap the climax, the victims were forced to leave the seats in the hall at the close of the "opera."

Why dilly-dally with the new State House? Either sell the pile as it is or finish it—there is no use in crying over spilled milk; go ahead—but don't do so any more.

BOOK NOTES congratulates Capt. George H. Pettis upon his new manufactory. He has undertaken the manufacture of the English language, and thus far has produced one complete word, to wit, *crispettes*. The derivation can be traced directly back to Chris. Pettis, and it means *pop corn*. Capt. Pettis has, at 422 Westminster St., a pop corn crispette manufactory, a healthful food, for all who prefer good health to sickness. Crispness and excellence, are imprinted upon every kernel.

BOOK NOTES calls attention to a book published by the Robert Clarke Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, entitled "Conversations on Animal Life," by Dr. A. J. Howe. This book is specially prepared for children, and the purpose of the author was not, as he himself says "*semi scientific*" that is, *half scientific*, but to be like Dr. Shufeldt, *wholly scientific*, and at the same time, not *unessentially* held to technical details, which tend to confuse a young and untrained mind.

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SATURDAY, Mar. 19, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 6.

Will Tax Reformation Require a Revolution.

It is reported of President Andrews that at a recent public meeting here in Providence, he said, in effect, that were the people to give their attention to the wickedness of the present methods of municipal taxation sufficiently long to understand it, that a revolution would follow in just two hours afterwards. It must come, and it will come.

On the 22d of February last Ex-President Harrison made an address before the Union League of Chicago. His theme was "*The Obligations of Wealth.*" An opening sentence reads: "One of the conditions of the security of wealth is a proportionate and full contribution to the expenses of the State and Local governments." And the direct question was about taxation. The Ex-President said, "Taxes are a debt of the highest obligation, and no casuist can draw a sound moral distinction between the man who hides his property or makes a false return in order to escape the payment of his debts to the state and the man who conceals his property from his private creditors. Where is the moral distinction between the act of putting one's hand in his neighbor's pocket and clandestinely abstracting his

pocketbook, and the fraudulent shifting of a debt that one owes to another? Is there not enough public virtue left in our communities to make tax frauds discreditable? If we admit the disgraceful conclusion that the state of public and private morals has become such in our country that the wealthy may not be brought under the law and compelled to yield it reverence and obedience, have we not confessed the failure of republican institutions? The practical question, the one our people must solve, and solve speedily, is the enforcement of the personal property tax, and the equalization of real estate assessments; perhaps the state might declare and maintain an estoppel against the claim of any man or his heirs to property, the ownership of which had been disclaimed in the tax returns."

Look at such an utter abomination as the following:

A very rich man here in Rhode Island bought a farm, not for the purpose of using it himself, but for the purpose of exacting money from those compelled by nature to use it. He laid it out in house-lots, four to an acre, and sold certain lots at \$300.00 each. On these lots the rich man was taxed by the Tax Assessors at a valuation of \$12.00 per acre, but the moment a poor man

bought a lot upon which to build a home, the poor man was taxed upon a valuation, for his land, at \$1200.00 per acre; meanwhile the rich man's contiguous lots were continued at the \$12.00 valuation. Such a system is positively unendurable. The remedy was in the hands of the Tax Assessors; the law does not compel the Tax Assessors to tax a poor man four times as much for the same thing as they tax the rich.

! This clipping from the *Newport Herald* of March 5th last is apropos: "Few of the people who are supposed to be most interested in the single tax theory of the late Henry George, really know what that theory is. It is, in brief, the theory that no tax shall be levied on the products of labor, but that the only tax should be levied—not on land—but on the value of land. Thus the tax would not fall on all land, but only on valuable land; so it would not call on men to contribute to the public revenues in proportion to their production, but in proportion to the value of the "natural opportunities" (land) that they hold. It would make speculation in land unprofitable, so that no one would want to hold more land than he actually needed for his own use. The tax would amount to the full rental value of the land, and would be based not on the improvements, but simply on the value of the land by itself. With this tax in effect, no other tax would be laid.

Mr. A. J. George, of the Newton High School, sends a note to the Boston *Transcript* from which Book Notes makes this clipping:

At a time when we hear the new ideas on education shouted from the housetops; when the scientific method is pressed at every point until teachers are weary of the word "method," when every subject must be labelled with the

sign of its exact educational value, it is refreshing and reassuring to listen to the divine Plato as he tells his pupils that "inspiration, not method," is what is most valuable in education.

There have recently appeared three books which every teacher and everyone interested in education should lose no time in reading: Martineau's "Faith and Self-Surrender," Findlay's "Arnold of Rugby" and Fitch's "Thomas and Matthew Arnold." The three can be read in half the time spent upon some cheap educational periodical.

Martineau says: "To teach us what to love and what to hate, whom to honor and whom to despise, is the substance of all training, and I would rather have an hour's communion with a noble soul than to know the law of gravitation through and through."

Dr. Arnold says: "I am sure that the more active my own mind is, and the more it works upon great moral and political points, the better for the school, not, of course, for the purpose of proselytizing the boys, but because education is a dynamical, not a mechanical process, and the more powerful and vigorous the mind of the teacher the more clearly and readily he can grasp things, the better fitted he is to cultivate the mind of another. And to this I find myself coming more and more: I care less for information, but more and more for the pure exercise of the mind."

This same spirit was splendidly continued in the life and work of Matthew Arnold. He says: "How is a sensible teacher likely to effect much practical good? It is by betaking himself to scientific teachers of pedagogy? . . . The worst of such doctrines is that everything depends upon the practical application given them. . . . To have the power of using, (which is the thing wished,) data of natural science a man must have first been in some measure

moralized; and for moralizing him it will be found not easy, I think, to dispense with those old agents—letters, poetry, religion. The fruitful use of natural science itself depends on having effected in the whole man, by means of letters, a rise in what political economists call the standard of life."

On the evening of February 15, Mr. James Snow, Jr. *repeated* before the Franklin Society a lot of Dorr war nonsense which he delivered before the same Society in October, 1891. Probably the Franklin Society thinks by having Mr. Snow at intervals, read his twaddle before it, that it (the twaddle) will become a cornerstone of history. The following report of Mr. Snow's nonsense is taken from the *Telegram* of February 16th last:

"But on the night of the attack his (Snow's) father prevented him from participating. The next morning, after Dorr had taken possession of the guns, but found them spiked, he ran away from home and tramped to the hill on Atwell's avenue, where Dorr had intrenched himself with his followers. From here Dorr fled to Acote's Hill in Chepachet, R. I., where he defied the state to remove him, but upon the state being put under martial law and troops ordered out by the governor he immediately decamped and fled to Woonsocket, and from thence to New York.

The speaker gave some very vivid descriptions of the adoption of the constitution and said that he with other small boys had thrown ten or a dozen votes into the ballot box for the acception of the new constitution, and that bribery was practiced on every side and by both parties. Every citizen went armed, and frequent outbursts on the street were not unusual, yet through all this rebellion no one was killed, and the question was settled peacefully after the death of Dorr."

This is wholly nonsense. Dorr did not take possession of the guns the next morning, for the excellent reason that he did not lose possession the night before. Dorr *never* fled from Atwell's avenue to Acote's Hill. No defiance was ever issued by Dorr, nor by anybody else from Acote's Hill. Dorr *never* fled from Acote's Hill to Woonsocket, nor did Dorr *ever* fly from Woonsocket to New York. These statements are all pure fiction. So too, is the statement that "no one was killed." Mr. Snow's story of his voting for the Constitution is a pure myth.

Mr. Snow believes, and wishes us to believe, that he began his Rhode Island political career as a political rascal, but he is mistaken. He is not the political rascal which his confession would make apparent. He didn't do anything of the kind. I ought to have kept a record of the men who have made to me the same declaration. Only a few weeks since a gentleman in whom it would be as morally impossible to make a false statement as it would be in Mr. Snow, told me that he also voted for the People's Constitution, but that he was a minor. Had he done so what difference would it have made? Does he believe that in Rhode Island since 1842 down to the latest election not one fraudulent vote has been cast? His name is recorded, and on his ballot were these words: "I am an American citizen of the age of twenty-one years," and this he signed with ink. Now who is to blame for that? But in Mr. Snow's case his tale is wholly nonsense. The votes were not cast in hats, as he stated, nor all the voting done in one place, but in wards just as it is now; the voting did not continue six, but three days, and every man who voted signed with his own hand the phrase above. Those who voted were classified as follows: Persons qualified but not admitted, Voters by proxy according to the Rhode Island ancient system. These proxy

votes in Providence numbered 99 in a total of 3556, and were cast in only two of the six wards. There were 13,164 ballots cast for adoption; on every ballot was written the name of the person who cast it, and these names were printed by order of Congress directly from these ballots taken to Washington in an iron chest for this purpose. It was the names of men not ballots which were counted; no ballot was counted on which was not written by himself the name of some responsible man. An unsigned ballot was not a vote, it was a blank ballot; hence Mr. James Snow, Jr., did not vote, and the evidence is that he is not so recorded.

The votes for the present Constitution were cast in precisely the same kind of of "hats" that the votes for the People's Constitution were cast in; and in the same places; and *three days* were taken in the voting; and those to be enfranchised voted, precisely as was done in the case of the People's Constitution. Mr. Snow knows nothing of all these matters—his tale is mere twaddle, and the Franklin Society should not assist him in the telling of it.

BOOK NOTES exposed it in 1891, and it will continue to expose it as often as Mr. Snow and the Franklin Society see fit to reproduce it.

Mr. James N. Arnold has published in the Pawtucket *Gazette and Chronicle*, an appeal for funds to aid him in his "wish to compile a digest of the Records of some one of the older Towns of the State, and would prefer Smithfield." The publication of the Records of certain Rhode Island Towns would be desirable, but the compilation of a Digest is questionable; moreover, accuracy of a first-class order is a first requisite—scholars who really understand the situation wish no more Digests, nor Compilations such as the late John R. Bartlett gave us in the Colonial Records; in order to make an adequate Di-

gest a far higher degree of scholarship is required than would be required to print the entire records. The state has been very liberal to Mr. Arnold in the publication of the *Vital Records*; nearly \$20,000 has been given to him. As an instance of the necessity of care, and the requisition of accuracy in the reproduction of these early records we give an illustration from Mr. Arnold's edition of *Fones' Records*, page 75. On line 11 read "Anno q^r Ke Ke Pulieb," &c. Of course this is nonsense—the reading should be "Annoq; R[egni] R[egis] Guliel[m];" and the words following, given by Mr. Arnold thus, "Fortie anglia & nono," would be, to most people, incomprehensible; the proper reading should be, "Tertii anglie & nono." These words mean the *Third* regnal year of the King, William 3d, and the *Ninth* regnal year since the advent into England, from the Netherlands, of William and Mary. This would mean the year 1697, and that was the year of the Document which Mr. Arnold was printing. The writer has never made a careful study of this Fones' Records, he therefore will note but one other correction. On page 37 occurs the name, Michael Casey: General Casey asked the writer to explain it; it was found to be upon the manuscript Michael Caley [Kelly]. These things show the necessity first, of extreme care, and second of scholarship, even in these reproductions.

Messrs. Lee and Shepard, Boston, have in press an interesting piece of fiction by Henry Wood, entitled "Victor Serenus." The scene is located in that very dramatic period of the world's history, the Pauline era, and through graphic character delineation deals with the thought, customs, and religious systems of that time. The aim is to draw a true and well-proportioned picture of the actual conditions, avoiding an overdrawn and debasing realism, so

often employed for the sake of exaggerated contrasts; With unimportant exceptions, Paul is the only historic character: those who been privileged to read the advance sheets are of opinion that the dramatic and psychological situations depicted during his unique development are remarkable. Victor Serenus, and the other leading personalities employed, are representative creations.

In the March number of McCLEURE'S, Herbert E. Hamblen relates the story of his experience as a freight engineer. That the story will abound in interesting and strange adventure we may safely infer from the account he has already given in McCLEURE'S of his experiences as a fireman and a brakeman. The paper will be illustrated with drawings from life by W. D. Stevens.

There is published at Boston by the New England Publishing Co. a quarterly magazine under the title *Current History*, price \$1.50 per year; it is a simple statement of events all the wide world over, happenings which come under the description historical. Thus the third quarter, July-Oct. 1897, gives the Great Coal Strike, the Klondike Gold Fields, the Eastern Crisis, the Cuban Revolt, the Continental Alliances, the Tariff Question, the Currency Reform, &c., &c., in fact, every topic discussed in that period all over the world

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The Boston *Transcript* of the 14th inst. has a trenchant paragraph from Judge Rogers' *Mary Dyer*, touching the effect on public opinion which followed the execution of William Leddra, and Mary Dyer.

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It was the war dance. This poem was published in 1820, the author died in 1819. It was edited by a friend Robert C. Sands; this friend wrote the introductory—Proem we poetically call it—one of the most beautiful poems written in connection with the Indians and bemoaning the loss of his friend. Sands was then a boy 18, and Eastburn was but 20 years of age. In a note Sands says the name *Yamoyden*, was an euphonic invention by Eastburn, devised from the names of the Sachems, names which "if connected with classical associations would seem full as sonorous as the names of the ancient heroes." The whole subject is positively delightful, now that we can look at it with no blood in our eyes.

Mr. Brayton's "Talk" was printed completely in the *Daily Evening News*, Fall River, of March 24. It may possibly be gathered into a pamphlet or book some day, hence it would be well to correct this; "as early as 1740 a dispute arose between the colonies of Massachusetts and Rhode Island respecting the eastern boundary of Rhode Island." This date was the beginning of the end—the dispute began nearly a hundred years earlier. The King gave the land to Rhode Island in the Charter of 1663; but Massachusetts held on to it until 1746. There is another correction needed; Mr. Brayton says "The county (Bristol) included (after the incorporation of 1746) the towns of Bristol, Warren and Barrington. By referring to the Digest of 1752, it will be seen (page 20) that the town of Barrington was destroyed, not incorporated, and the land was named Warren at that time, and by referring to the same Digest, (page 25) it will be seen that Bristol County, then contained but two towns, to wit, Bristol and Warren.

This is not "malicious criticism," but simply notes pointing to errors into which any writer may easily fall, but which every true scholar must

wish to have corrected. All of us are under obligation to Mr. Brayton; he has done a noble thing; he has rescued most valuable papers from destruction, and instead of hiding them away where no scholars can find them, has placed them in the keeping of the Historical Society where any man (member or not) who is honestly in pursuit of knowledge will be welcome (I am sure) to examine them. Then, Mr. Brayton told the story of the Deeds, and something concerning the makers of them, but he did more, he reproduced at much cost, but with absolute perfection, the Deed of Nammunpanm (Weetamoe) and kindly sent the writer a copy, thus it is always at hand for my closest study. As one poor scholar, the writer thanks Mr. Brayton; he acted in the line of positive historical learning, and he did it well—go thou and do likewise.

A good set of Ridgway's edition of Erskine's Speeches when at the Bar, is for sale at 52 Snow street. It has the excellent memoir of Lord Erskine written by Brougham. Price \$5.00.

The issue of *Book Notes* for March 19, had this paragraph.

"A very rich man here in Rhode Island bought a farm, not for the purpose of using it himself, but for the purpose of exacting money from those compelled by nature to use it. He laid it out in houselots, four to an acre, and sold certain lots at \$300.00 each. On these lots the rich man was taxed by the Tax Assessors at a valuation of \$12.00 per acre, but the moment a poor man bought a lot upon which to build a home, the poor man was taxed upon a valuation, for his land, at \$1200.00 per acre; meanwhile the rich man's contiguous lots were continued at the \$12.00 valuation."

Let us make a little plat of the section:

1926	1927	1928
Taxed to the speculator \$3.00.	Taxed to the speculator \$3.00.	Taxed to the speculator \$3 co.
1929	1930	1931
Taxed to the speculator \$3.00.	Taxed to the builder of a home \$300.co.	Taxed to the speculator \$3.00.

It is unnecessary to speculate upon the result of such an outrage. *Book Notes* only alludes to it, as the *Journal* reasons, because it, (*Book Notes*), has no property, while other folks have property. That is no doubt why Ex-President Harrison made his "anarchistic" speech at Chicago.

This astounding action is done right here in Providence in exactly the same manner, and to even a greater extent than in the case described above. Take the Grosvenor, and Eaton, and Bailey, and Bradley holdings, for instance. In this case the speculator is assisted by the Tax Assessors in twisting money out of poor men for the use of land which the poor man cannot exist without using; let a poor man buy a lot on which to build a home, and forthwith he was taxed for it, on a valuation of \$300.00; while the Speculator holding the very next lots on either side is assisted by the Tax Assessors in holding them for the next victim; and taxed for it on a valuation of \$3.00. Have humanity, and common sense, both left the human habitations of such Tax Assessors?

The Boston Herald of March 17, 1898, has this, from a speech at Boston before the Boot and Shoe Club, by Mr. William Lloyd Garrison.

These paragraphs are not in the precise language of Mr. Garrison, but they are the "Herald's" report of his words.

"The adjustment of taxation is the measure of civilization and progress.

The single tax means the abolition of all present taxes, excepting only the tax on land values, irrespective of improvements in or upon the land. It means that government shall draw its entire support from a tax on land values. In other words, the rental value of land would be the tax demanded.

No one creates property. Land is the sole source of property in the world. Ethically, land is not property, and the assumption that it is lies at the root of our perplexing social problems. Rent is a value made collectively by a community, and is not an individual product. The single tax would secure to the individual the absolute right to his own earnings, which all governments disregard now. The single tax does not mean to disturb existing titles, to have the land owned by government."

A set, in excellent binding, of the *Penny Magazine*, covering the years 1832-1839, has been left with *BOOK NOTES* for sale. Price \$5.00.

The action of the latest Grand Jury in the case of McWilliams, who assaulted and killed Adams in a house of ill-fame on Walker street; and in the case of Marsh, who shot and killed Welch in Cumberland, the finding an indictment for simple assault in the first, and no indictment in the last case, has excited profound public interest. The action of the Grand *Inquest* is worse than farcical—it is criminal. The Grand Jury itself ought to be indicted; it has blocked the road to the administration of justice—it *tries cases* without the assistance of the defendant's counsel. This action of the Grand Jury in the McWilliams case was actually foretold to the writer at least two weeks before the impanelling of the Grand Jury; with whom was the deal made—what became of the evidence before the coroner; were the witnesses all corrupted, and did the Grand Jury *inquire* into

these matters? These are serious questions, and yet they are precisely similar to my own personal experience in a Grand Jury, related in these Book Notes.

Men "as they run" know positively nothing concerning their duties or obligations, or powers, as Grand Jurymen, these things they *must* learn and put into practice or the confidence of men in the integrity of the law department of the State will be utterly destroyed if in fact it is not already destroyed.

The *Journal* of March 27, says, concerning the McWilliams case, and the fact that that person who killed Adams was not arraigned, "As a result of the talk that followed the action of the Grand Jury, Atty. Gen. Tanner is seriously considering the idea of nol-prossing the indictment for assault, and securing a new indictment for a graver crime." Does the *Journal* actually intend to insinuate that Atty. Gen. Tanner "*secured*" a weak indictment, when he might have "*secured*" one for the "graver crime," and that now, feeling a sense of popular indignation, he will ask the court to grant it, while he brings in an indictment for the graver crime. Such an administration of public justice is in effect aiding and abetting criminals.

The *Atlantic Medical Weekly* for 19th March last was a red letter number, full of bright, and as BOOK NOTES believes, true things. Here is a sentence worth printing in gold, "The advertising quack is not so harmful as the regular physician with dishonest practices." The Half Century address delivered before the Providence Medical Association, by Dr. Herbert Terry, actually sparkles. This *Association* was formed in 1848 ostensibly for "the Cultivation and Advancement of Science." Dr. Terry says "A Fee Table engaged the attention of the Association almost at the start," but "cut rates" followed almost at once, "in 1851 and "a com-

mittee was appointed to wait upon each member (Physician) and obtain a written statement of their (his) future intention in regard to the Fee Table." Then Dr. Terry continues "each and every member (Doctor) toed the mark." This Fee Table underwent serious consideration in September, 1869, and was immensely increased. The Society was chartered in 1887, when this Fee Table underwent another serious consideration, and the additions were positively without limit. The "lee way" under this last Fee Table is thus illustrated: office consultation, \$1 to \$5; Vaccination, \$1 to \$5; ordinary visits, \$2 to \$10; operations for appendicitis (and which never ought to be attempted), \$50 to \$500, and so on with everything. Are men to be blamed for seeking help at the hospitals under such schemes? nevertheless these "regulars" who have done nothing regular, save regularly abandoning their "regular" practice, are now endeavoring to prevent us poor mortals from attempting to get "cured" at "regular" prices at these hospitals, and everywhere attempting to obtain the enactment of laws restricting all medical practices to themselves alone. They wish a corner on Doctoring, and begin with Doctoring the Laws. There is not today a "regular" practioner in existence, every man is an eclectic. Not a single individual would today dare to practice the "science" which the men of 1848 practiced; and the only reference which 50 years hence those who then practice will make to the physician of today, will be to point backwards to show how far the practice *then*, can be shown to have been empirical, that is by guesswork, and utterly wrong. Gentlemen give less attention to your Fee Tables, and endeavor to discover the Science of Man, and this Science does not lie in the direction of new drugs nor overdoses either. There is something as much beyond it, and as little known as was the X ray five years ago.

The inflexibility of gold as a measure of values is cleverly shown in this editorial article from the *Boston Herald*, 23rd March, 1898. The transaction was given in the *New York Herald* of the same date but no other reference to it was made in the latter paper.

CHEAP GOLD ABROAD.

There would seem to be no end to the gold that the outside world can furnish to meet the American demand, and furnish, too, on terms surprisingly favorable, in view of the heavy drain which we have recently made on the foreign supplies of the yellow metal. A London dispatch reports that yesterday \$1,170,000 gold, just received from South Africa, was purchased at 77s. 10d. per ounce for shipment to New York. This means that it was obtained at less than par, the parity quotation being 77s. 10 1/2d. per ounce. Put in the more familiar form of dollars and cents, the London price, if reckoned with exchange at its legal rating of \$4.8665 to the pound sterling, is equivalent to \$18.9387 per ounce for gold at the British standard, or to \$20.6605 per ounce for fine gold. As the coinage rate for gold in our mints is

\$20.6718 per ounce for the unalloyed metal, it will be seen that, if exchange ruled at par, the lot purchased in London yesterday would have been obtained at about 1 1/8 cents per ounce below the coinage value.

This of itself would have been a low price, when you remember the largeness of the amounts of gold that have been taken from the London market for shipment to our shores within the past four weeks. But the trade was even better for the American buyer. Exchange is quoted a good deal below par. It is obtainable at about \$4.84 1/4 to the pound sterling. At this figure the gold would cost only \$20.5386 per fine ounce, and there would be a margin of over 11 1/4 cents per ounce between the London price and the minting value here.

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SATURDAY, April 16, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 8.

The course of the *Journal* on Cuban or Spanish matters, since the destruction of the "Maine," has been nearly, if not quite, without precedent in Rhode Island journalism. To describe it as downright mendacity is to state it mildly. Let BOOK NOTES give you a specimen from the issue of the *Journal* for April 9th:

THE FERN BLOWN UP.

Another Possible Outrage in Harbor of Havana.

A Censored Dispatch Received by the New York Herald.

Special to the Providence Journal:

New York, April 9, 4 A. M. Great excitement here. The Herald has just received the following dispatch from Havana. "The Fern destroyed by an explosion in Havana. Cannon——"

Now just look upon the *Journal's* foundation for this abominable lie. This is from the N. Y. Herald of April 9th:

RUMORED THE FERN HAS BEEN BLOWN UP.

Washington, D. C., Saturday, 1.30 A. M.—There are rumors in circulation here this morning that the United

States lighthouse tender Fern has been blown up at Havana:

I have been unable to verify these rumors at the Navy Department.

Let me give you a few more specimens of two inch head lines from this precious paper.

March 29. "Indignation Rages" at President's message.

March 30. "War Spirit Rages"

March 30. "Within 60 Hours Spain Must Answer."

April 1. "Spain's Reply.—Tension Acute."

April 2. "War Certain.—Senate Angry."

April 3. "Negotiations are Ended."

April 5. "The Message Wednesday."

April 6. "Gen. Woodford Recalled."

It is needless to say what all my readers now know, that there was not one true word in all these headings. In every case that which followed, when rightly understood, almost invariably gave the lie, to the actual contributions of the Editor of the *Journal* himself. It may be, that such a course may in the long run, help the standing of the *Journal* in this community, but BOOK NOTES does not believe that it will, and the writer of BOOK NOTES knows the sterling quality of the best Rhode Island

sentiment, quite as well as the editor of this "Yellow" *Journal* knows it.

That there are others here besides the writer, who thinks as he thinks, this letter from the *Journal* of the 7th of April will show:

ONE WOMAN'S PROTEST.

To the Editor of the Journal:

I wish to protest, as earnestly as one woman can, against the course of the Providence *Journal* in the Cuban matter.

Is it fair play, without evidence, to hold the Spanish Government—with everything to lose by it—responsible for the terrible explosion on the Maine? Is it not quite as probable that the Cuban Junta—with everything to gain by it—and with power to plan in New York and carry out in Havana the theft of a private letter from the Post Office there, did the deed? Is it fair play, either, to "hold up" Sagasta and Gen. Blanco, when they are doing their utmost to bring order into their most unhappy land and to keep their promise of a more liberal government, and to help as far as they can the poor starving people? Is it humanity to keep supplies from the reconcentrados by blockading the ports of Cuba and forcing them all to die to starvation? Is it good republican government to give the power over the beautiful island into the hands of a minority of its citizens, and into the hands of men whose claim to so responsible a charge is not based on any proofs of wisdom or of patriotism, but on the murder of "all non-combatants," the destruction of farms, the blowing up of railway trains and the worse than savage murder of all peace envoys?

Is this a cause for which thousands of brave Americans must die? Shall this spectacle be what on Good Friday the dear Christ shall look on? Shall His "sad face on the cross see only this, after the passion of two thousand years?"

ELIZA G. RADEKE.

Providence, April 6, 1898.

If souls in Paradise possess hearts, there must have been one heart there which leaped for joy when it saw that letter so brave, so noble and so true. There are those who do not know this woman; she is the beloved daughter of one of the largest owners of the Providence *Journal* itself, Mr. Jesse Metcalf.

The English financial situation in India is rapidly approaching the condition which Prof. Ghosh, of the Calcutta University said last October (in the *North American Review*) that it would assume. The collapse, without a moment's use, of the scheme to issue in India currency (paper) notes on deposits of gold therefor in London, was the last of the makeshifts which the British government since 1893 has attempted. The Springfield *Republican* speaks thus upon the subject:

"Thus all makeshifts to ease the present intolerable situation in India, without resorting to the extremes of reopening the mints to silver or setting up the gold standard; have come to nothing; and the government, having cast away the opportunity offered by the United States and France for the safe restoration of silver in India, must now take the dreaded step of accumulating a gold reserve in its eastern empire.

"All recognize that this is a step in the dark. Where the gold is to come from, and how much will be required to insure the gold redeemability of the rupee, is a question. The London money market is already severely taxed by the gold drain to the United States and any considerable demand from India would precipitate serious financial disturbance. But as the only alternative to a return to open mints for silver, which is now left to the British, the step must be taken."

Prof. Ghosh said "If she refuses to act now that she has the assistance of two great nations like France and the United States she may be compelled in a few months to re-open the Indian

mints single handed, when the present dark clouds on the Indian horizon threaten a storm of unprecedented fury." England cannot get the gold necessary to put India upon a monometallic (gold) basis, and the silver mints will be re-opened—the closing of which was the greatest robbery of a nation, for the sole benefit of the rich men in England which this world has ever known, with a single stroke of a pen, a man in London closed all the Indian mints, in an instant the property of every native of British India, and there were 225 millions of them, was shrunk one half, while the English debts, the English taxes, and the English customs duty was payable in gold. A nation was robbed in a moment.

The anarchistic tendency of the *Journal* appears in the issue of that paper for March 25th it has this astounding paragraph, "The rights of ownership in land must cease at some point upwards or downwards, or great injuries could be done to the community in general, without the chance of redress." If BOOK NOTES had printed that paragraph, how long would the *Journal* have waited before denouncing, not BOOK NOTES, for BOOK NOTES is too small to be recognized, but disorganizers of Society "in general," men who, because they have nothing, are warring against those who have millions. Mr. H. J. Chase well asks the *Journal* if it "must cease at some point upward or downward" why not sideways—The *Journal* does not answer.

The New York *Herald* in May, 1897 published an article on "Landlords in New York" in which it said that 18 men owned 18 per cent of all the real estate in that city and that these 18 with 150 others owned one half of the real estate in that city; The Boston *Herald* in June last reproduced the N. Y. *Herald* article and the Boston *Herald* came again to the subject 15th October, 1897,

with an article in which are these "anarchistic" paragraphs: "We are inclined to regard the great American landlord with disfavor; he is associated in our minds with the ideas of high rents demanded the instant they are due; in the meantime we pay rent and tolerate him because he continues to exist, and the law protects him." The *Herald* gives the holdings of land in New York City, by the Astors at \$200,000,000. These sentiments are not original with BOOK NOTES but they were all taken from the New York *Herald*, the Boston *Herald* and the Providence *Journal*; at another time, BOOK NOTES will cite the N. Y. *Evening Post*

The *Jerseyman* is a quarterly magazine of local (New Jersey) history, edited by Mr. H. E. Deats, and published by Mr. Deats, at Flemington, N. J. The current number relates chiefly to the Stevenson Family, and to the *Kingwood Records*. These records were of the Bethlehem Monthly (Quaker) Meeting, and were begun about 1744. The Stevenson Family figure in them. The *Jerseyman* is a Royal octavo of eight pages, very neatly printed.

The Ladies' *Home Journal* states that it received in the year 1897, manuscripts in number 9290, and that less than one per cent. (92) were accepted. The *Bookseller and Newsdealer* of February 15th says that Lee & Shepard of Boston received in the month of January, 1898, twenty five (and more) manuscripts (Books), for publication, every one of which was sent back to the writers. Evidently the McKinley boom has at last reached literature.

The *Journal* of Wednesday says, "The ordinary citizen seldom goes farther than the captions." Then why not take especial care that the ordinary citizen is not deceived by these lying captions, like "*The Fern Blown Up*."

Prof. Louis C. Elson, of the N. E. Conservatory of Music, of Boston, will deliver in Providence on Tuesday evening next, April 19, at Infantry Hall, his famous musical lecture on the History and Influences of Scottish Song. The accomplished orator and singer will illustrate the History with the songs which are national with the Scotch. These characteristic melodies were the delights of the Scotchmen at the gatherings of the clans in the ancient warlike days of Scotland. Their peculiar music has been the delight of everybody ever since. Whether David Rizzio, the closest companion of Mary, Queen of Scots, was the real inventor or first composer of this Scottish music men do not know, possibly Prof. Elson will tell us about it. There is so much musical and dramatic interest in it, that this illustrated song-lecture cannot fail to be both amusing and instructive.

Judge Tillinghast of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, delivered an address at the dedication of the High School Building at Pawtucket in April last which has been just now printed in the School Report. The address, as a whole, is a well considered, conservative paper; as the learned orator proceeded, sententious sentences now and then appear. Here is one: "It has long seemed to me that our system of public education is largely a one-sided system; that it educates the intellectual side of the man, but neglects the physical side; that it trains the head but not the hand. * * * Another evil of the one-sided education aforesaid is that it tends to beget in the minds of youth a disinclination for manual labor and a too general desire to be able to live by the use of their wits." The argument is, and is as BOOK NOTES believes sound, that education as now pursued weakens the "bone and sinew" of that which we should all desire—a sound and stable

government of the people, by the people, for the people.

BOOK NOTES with pleasure calls the attention of those entrusted to buy books for the Public Free Libraries all over Rhode Island, to a little series of catalogues entitled *The Librarian's Help Series*, published by the Baker & Taylor Co., 5 East 16th street, New York City. The present number of this admirable little Guide covers books relating to American history, published in 1897, with annotations and prices. It will cost you nothing; it can be had for the asking.

The *Century* is publishing a series of articles on "The Seven Wonders of the World," written by Prof Benjamin Ide Wheeler, with illustrations by Castaigne. The series begins in the April *Century*.

This clipping shows, the etiquette of State, the rigid rules of precedence which govern social events concerning the administration at Washington:

"The wife of the President makes and returns no visits. The wife of the Vice-president pays first visit only to the wife of the President," writes Mary Nimmo Balentine in an illustrated article on "Women of the United States Senate" in the April *Woman's Home Companion*.

Two clever papers are in the *New England Magazine* for April. One is entitled "Old Time Factory Life in New England," and the other "The Two Cottages." This latter paper shows how a little good taste will make a home beautiful, just as the lack of good taste will make home ugly.

Westminster Street has not in half a century shown anything like the number of shops for rent as is now shown.

The city of Providence never held so many empty dwelling houses as it holds at this moment.

A person known to me desired a room for a club—found one, price \$18.00 per month—said he would look about—the “landlord” held on to the person and finally rented the room for \$10.00, nearly 50 per cent reduction.

The time approaches when a drink of pure, sweet spring water will bring refreshment to you. Don't drink the filthy, unfiltered Pawtuxet; it may not kill, but it is nasty. The “Girard” is as good as the best, and at one-half the price at which most of these spring waters are sold.

An interesting paper in the April *McClure's* is a series of heroic stories of the Gordon Highlanders, who crowned themselves with glory last autumn in charging through a deadly fire and capturing an almost impregnable position at the summit of the Dargai cliff. It is illustrated with views of historic charges and with other pictures.

The story of the Swiss Government's purchase of the railroads, as authorized by the recent referendum vote, is told in the *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for April, by Mr. J. R. MacDonald.

Solomon tells us (Proverbs 31:6) to “give wine to him who is ready to perish;” and “to those that be of heavy hearts” in sorrow. In case you do give wine go to Thomas S. Mitchell & Co., 15 North Main street, where you will find a man who will not deceive you.

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ELIZABETH'S SPRING.

How Wickford, R. I., came by the Name.

This Spring is mentioned by Roger Williams in a letter written to Gov. John Winthrop, of Connecticut, 13 June 1675. Mr. Williams says, "I constantly think of you and send up one remembrance to heaven for you, and a groan from myself when I pass Elizabeth's Spring; here is the Spring say I, with a sigh, but where is Elizabeth." This Elizabeth was the beloved wife of Gov. Winthrop, of Connecticut; she died 24 November 1672, she was, or is believed to have been, the daughter of Edward Read, of Wickford, Essex County, England. Mr. Williams again refers to Elizabeth's Spring, in a letter to Gov. Winthrop, written 18 December 1675; this was the day before the Great Swamp Fight. Mr. Williams was here in Providence. He says: "We have now no passing by Elizabeth Spring without a strong foot. God will have it so." —*Narragansett Club v. 6. pp. 365, 378.*

This Spring is next spoken of in the Connecticut Colonial Record, v. 2. p. 590; it is there stated to be "north of Mr. Gould's about three miles toward Warwick."

Neither the Smith Block House, nor the Updike's, nor Devil's Foot Rock, nor Elizabeth's Spring, were mentioned by Madame Knight, in her "Journey" from Boston to New York in 1704, yet she passed by all these places; but there was a letter published in a Providence newspaper in 1875, which gave an extract from a letter purporting to have been written in 1704, by John Winthrop, grandson of this Elizabeth Winthrop, giving an account of a journey from New London to Boston. This Mr. Winthrop describes the Spring and says "Wickford also had its name from her, it being ye place of her nativity in old England." —(*Potter's Early History of Narragansett, 2nd Ed. p. 416*)

The Honorable Judge Stiness, President of the Historical Society thus kindly refers in his Annual Address to the Historical Tract written by the writer of BOOK NOTES, entitled "*Soul Liberty, Rhode Islands' Gift to the Nation.*" "Mr. Rider contends with characteristic keenness and vigor, that at most, all that can be accorded to Maryland is a certain degree of religious toleration which is quite distinct from religious liberty. The argument is clear and convincing. It is based

upon the charter and laws of Maryland which show that religious liberty whatever may have been the practice under them was far from the fundamental and charter right as in Rhode Island. Mr. Rider is in error in one of his statements which however, does not affect the strength of the argument. Charles the First who gave the charter was not a Roman Catholic, as stated in the Tract, but the civil head of the Church of England. His wife was a Romanist, and so also was Cecil Calvert, eldest son of Lord Baltimore to whom the charter was granted." The history of this error of mine is curious. The clause as originally written in 1894, (BOOK NOTES v. II. p. 243. read "It made US the Lords' Proprietors, and our heirs, Roman Catholics, sole arbiters as to what God's holy and truly Christian religion was, and how the consciences of men were bound to interpret it.") The "US" should not have been printed in capital letters. In a note, Prof. Jameson called my attention to the matter thus, "I should like to make one suggestion respecting a phrase used on p. 243. In the second column you quote in the first paragraph the concluding sentence of the King's charter, and in the second paragraph interpret the word US therein as referring to the Lords' Proprietors, as grammatical antecedents, &c." In attempting to correct the phrase, as suggested by Prof. Jameson, I fell into a very much worse error, as suggested by Judge Stiness. Had the word "us" been printed in "lower case" letters, as is here done, I would have undertaken to maintain the integrity of the phrase. I knew very well that Charles the First was not a Roman Catholic as these notes gathered in the progress of my original study will attest.

"The policy of Charles the First was to wink at the domestic exercise of the Roman Catholic religion." (*Hallam Const. Hist. Eng. 1859, p. 270.*

"He entertained no violent horror against Popery, and a little humanity he thought was due by the nation to the religion of their ancestor." (*Hume Hist. Eng. v. 5 p. 10.*)

"By this expedient (dispensing with the penal statutes against Roman Catholics) the King (Charles 1st.) both filled his coffers and gratified his inclination of giving indulgence to these (Roman Catholic) religionists." (*Hume Hist. Eng. v. 5 p. 20.*)

"His piety though remote from Popery, had a tincture of superstition in it; it was averse to the Puritans." (*Hume Hist. Eng. v. 5 p. 57.*)

While again upon the question of religious liberty BOOK NOTES desires to preserve in its columns another historical reference. While an exile at Breda in the Netherlands, Charles the Second sent Sir John Granville with a secret message to General Monk, offering the General great pecuniary rewards and any rank which he desired in case he (Gen. Monk) would assist the King in his attempts at a restoration. *Hume (Hist. Eng. v. 6 p. 410)* gives this fact with some detail; but there were matters which Mr. Hume does not give. It was in 1659 that Granville was sent to Gen. Monk. The latter returned a secret answer by Granville suggesting certain political advantages which might accrue to Charles the Second in case that he (the King) would address them to Parliament. These propositions were to confirm the land titles which had been purchased during the war of the Rebellion, and securing the public sales which had taken place; and second "because nothing was more likely to run the people into frenzies than the fear of restraint in their several religions, he (Gen. Monk) did further beseech his Majesty to declare his assent for toleration, and liberty of conscience to all his subjects who should so employ it, as not to give any disturbance to the civil government."

Skinner's Life of Gen Monk, 1723 pp. 301-2) The result was the Declaration of Breda, 14th April 1660, in which both of Gen. Monk's suggestions were accepted by the King. Mr. Arnold, (*Hist. R. I.* vol. 1. p. 293) shows the precise similarity of the language used by the King in the *Declaration 1660* to that used in the charter of 1663, "no man shall be disquieted or called in question for differences of opinion in matters of religion which do not disturb the peace." In Nov. 1658 the R. I. Court of Commissioners, addressed a letter to John Clark, the Agent of the Colony, in England in which were certain principles to be presented to the Lord Protector; this is one of those principles, "plead our case in such sorte as we may not be compelled to exercise any civil power over men's consciences soe longe as humane orders in point of civility (that is, the civil law) are not corrupted, and violated" (Col. Rec. v. 1, p. 398) Thence we go back to the principle of Roger Williams "that the magistrate ought not to permit the breach of the first table except when the civil peace is endangered."

Somewhere I fell upon this estimate of books, ascribed to Chief Justice Reeve, but since there were two Chief Justices Reeve, I am unable to say which one I am quoting, "he gave some advice to a nephew concerning the study of the law. Concerning conveying he advised the young man to "call in the aid of some old practitioner who is your friend," then continued, "if that advantage cannot be acquired you must be contented with such light as you can strike, out of the modern books of practice; if not then I can give no other character than Martial gave on books in general, *sunt bona quaedam* etc. This epigram of Martial's is slightly different—"Sunt bona, sunt quaedam mediocria, sunt plura mala."

Some are good, some middling, the most are bad.

In the department Notes and Queries of the Boston *Transcript* the following question and answer appeared (Mar 26): "(1751) What is the oldest newspaper published in New England? J. G. L.

[The Newport (R. I.) Mercury, established in 1758. The second oldest is the Hartford Courant, founded in 1764, and third oldest, the Worcester Spy, 1770," was the answer of the *Transcript*.

The question is ambiguous, it has many meanings; but whatever meaning is assumed the answer given is not correct. There is to-day a newspaper published in Newport having the same name that a newspaper published in that town, in 1758 bore, but it has not had a continuous run since that date. *The Rhode Island Gazette* is a much older newspaper, published in the same town in 1703. And in Boston were published three much older newspapers, one in 1704, one in 1719, and one in 1721.

Clean soft water to drink is a necessary condition of existence. Why drink the filthy unfiltered "Pawtuxet" when you can have the pure sweet waters of the Girard Spring for almost nothing. Just *half the price* charged for any other table spring water, now delivered in Providence—and of absolute purity.

The value of newspapers as basis of authority for historical statements is neatly shown by this, from the Boston *Herald of April 20*: "Mme. Melba is enjoying her holiday at Monte Carlo, where have been also seen, etc.," and this from the New York *Herald of April 20*: "Mme. Melba was heard for the first time in San Francisco, to-night, 19th April, in the role of Violetta and scored a great hit." Monte Carlo and San

Francisco are nearly opposite to each other on this Globe.

BOOK NOTES has received a copy of the *Cornell University Register*, 1897-1898. For this courtesy it is indebted to Prof. R. H. Thurston, once with us here in Providence, but now Director of the Sibley College of mechanical engineering and the mechanic arts and Dean of the Faculty. Sibley College was founded by Hiram Sibley of Rochester, N. Y. It is a part of Cornell University but it requires brains as well as money to develop a college and here is where they come from provided Prof. Riedler, a distinguished German scholar is to be trusted. The clipping below is from his paper in *Zeitschrift des Vereines deutscher Ingenieure*. "Scientifically educated and experienced engineers were called and Professor R. H. Thurston, formerly of the Stevens Institute, as Director of the new college, was entrusted (1885) with its organization. In 1893 the organization was completed, with great success and Sibley College at present is the most prominent and best School of Mechanical Engineering in the country.

The *Cornell Register* gives the foundation, trustees, departments, faculties, classifications, graduations, scholarships, prizes, German courses, students, alumni, in fact everything of general interest concerning the University.

The French occupation of Newport near the close of the war of the Revolution, brought into use a number of French words in ways that are amusing; some specimens of which we ran against, in a file of the *U. S. Chronicle* for 1784. A negro, one Cato Hunt, was convicted of "breaking into" the store of *Messieurs* Brown, Rogers & Brown, and stealing watches; a little later somebody "stole from the door" of *Messieurs* Clark & Nightingale, a pair of saddle-bags. Mr. Bennet Wheeler,

the publisher of the *Chronicle*, advertised "*Etwee Cases*" at various prices. Probably needle cases, from the French *etui*. Another merchant of that time, Mr. Metcalf Bowler, advertised a "Grand assortment of curious 'Cut-teau.'" We suppose that he meant pocket knives. Among other things which Mr. Wheeler urged people to buy was, "Elegant gilt Letter paper *pour la billet-doux*. This was the beginning of "gilt-edged" letter paper in Providence.

The absurd claims of the *Bulletin* and the *Telegram* of their circulation have been punctured without mercy by the *News*. Next to the monumental political lying of the newspapers are the tales of their circulation—tons and tons of daily newspapers, ("circulation books always open") are given to junk dealers for the carting. Each paper is counted in the circulation but no subscriber nor reader ever sets his eyes upon it. Every paper going out is charged and *no paper is ever returned*. It is only thrown into the junk pile, the subheading alone goes back, and is credited. Why does not the *News* explain this arrangement.

The *Olneyville Times* comes in a new and very much improved form and is filled with bright crisp things which brother Sibley knows so well how to write. There is more virile force in ten well written lines than in ten columns of such stuff as the *Journal* printed about the Hutchins' murder.

Collier's Weekly is developing with great rapidity, and most admirably. Recently it has added Blanche Willis Howard to its corps. Her papers alone are worth the cost of the periodical.

One of the most rigid of Book publishing concerns in this country has been for some years, Blanchard & Lea,

or Lea & Blanchard or Lea Brothers & Co., under whatever name the same general business has been conducted. Just now these publishers issue a catalogue of their publications, in which the most astonishing propositions are made. Books published and strictly held at \$12.00 are now offered at \$4.50; Books published and strictly held at \$21.00 are now offered for \$9.45; Five dollar books are offered at \$2.25; books published for \$3.75 are offered at \$1.58; and so on, down. In some cases \$1.50 books are sold at 42 cents and books published at \$3.25 are offered at \$1.12. This can indicate but one of two conditions; at all events the McKinley boom has not yet reached the line of medical publications.

The art of reducing gold to extremely thin leaves by beating it with a hammer is called gold beating; by this process a piece of gold is extended so as to cover a space 651,590 times greater than its primary surface. This beating process seems now to be applied to literature, and a degree of thinness has resulted, to which gold leaf is density

itself, in comparison; take a 16 to 40 page Sunday newspaper as an illustration; in fact spissitude is the only word in which accurately to describe such pap.

The Boston merchants have forced a ten per cent. reduction in insurance rates, but the infamous 80 per cent. paster is still attached to Fire policies, by means of a general statute—by which means an insurance company takes your money giving you nothing in return, or next to nothing. An insurance policy with a "paster" is a semblance of security.

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SATURDAY, May 14, 1898

VOL. 15.
No. 10.

WILLIAM WHITE.

The First Bricklayer in Providence.

Early in the year 1656 the Town Meeting of Providence made an assignment of land to the individual above-named. The town directed that he (White) "be accommodated with a house lot adjoining Benjamin Herndell his house lot, and further according to convenience." In the year following (1657) White was granted by the town an enlargement of his holding of land, and still later, in 1658, White was allowed "a share for his meadow lying about the head of Mr. Dexter's ground by a little swamp, neere by Thomas Walling's." None of these assignments of land by the town to White were in fee simple, he simply was given what all the citizens here then had—the right to use, but not the right to transmit. This condition is shown by the clause in a deed for "Hearnton," his (White's) son-in law, "the which said right the same William White was possessed with from the aforesaid Towne of Providence, or at least it did belong unto him of right from the Towne of Providence." This was in 1662. (Early Rec., vol. 1, p. 69.) The locality of the house lot assigned to William White

was then Dexter's lane, now called Olney street.

The "Herndell" house lot was bounded by Herndon's lane; evolution produced Harrington's lane, then North street, and now it rejoices in the high-sounding name of Rochambeau avenue, in memory of the commander of the French army, our allies in war of the Revolution, which lay in camp upon a hilltop near by. BOOK NOTES once gave seventeen varie ies in spelling the name Harrington, and yet did not exhaust the subject, (BOOK NOTES, vol. 9 p. 232). The assignment of land (25 acres) to White in 1658 made him eligible to become a freeman, or veter, and he was given this political right White came here to dwell from Boston, in the Massachusetts Colony, and brought his family, among whom was Elizabeth White, his daughter. This young woman married here Benjamin "Hearndon," as it was then written, as her first husband. He died in 1687, and in the following year she married her second husband, Richard Pray. There is much curious local scandal connected with Pray, but this was some years before Mrs. Hearndon's marriage and is not pertinent to this inquiry. Nothing more of record exists concerning William White until the year 1662, he

dwelt here in peace, doubtless following his calling, that of a bricklayer. These facts appear in White's deed of 16. Oct. 1662, (Early Rec., v. 4, p. 9) of his "house and lot of 25 acres in Providence for twenty pounds (£20) the money being paid by his wife Elizabeth Hearn-den" (White's daughter). It is thus clear that in 1662 White had removed with his wife to Boston, but how long he remained there is not quite clear; he was, notwithstanding, a Freeman here in Providence four years later, in 1666, which fact appears in a drawing by lot "for the devision of land on the East side of the seven mile line," which took place in January 1666. William White drew the 19th choice (Early Rec. v. 3, p. 72). In 1675 he had returned to Providence and again shared in a lottery division of land, east of the seven mile line; in 1683, White again shared in a lottery division of land here, drawing land west of this line. In 1701, White's daughter, Elizabeth Pray, gave a deed of a house and lot "which formerly belonged to my father" * * * "who is now deceased, but was formerly of Providence."

It is thus clear that William White, a bricklayer, was a Freeman, here in Providence, for not less than thirty years. It is not supposable that one of his calling was not needed. There must have been bricks here, and if bricks were here, chimneys and ovens were made by using them. He must have found ample occupation subsequent to King Philip's War for, although the chimneys of the houses burned by the Indians, 30th March 1676, must have been left standing, they must have required the services of a man of William White's calling. These chimneys although mostly built of stone, were often topped with brick. A clause in the Early Records states that "Waybosset Hill furnished abundance of clay for brickmaking," and in an Inventory made in 1698 "a parcell of Bricks" were

appraised. Rehoboth, which then (1663) included what is now the city of Pawtucket, endeavored to induce at that time the coming of a bricklayer to come and settle in that town. It must not be presumed that Providence was behind these sparsely settled districts, in the matter of bricks, and their burning, and the laying thereof. This paper qualifies somewhat the statement in Isham's *Early Houses in Rhode Island* (page 70) that the chimney was built of stone until about 1700." It was chiefly built of stone within the structure, but often topped with brick.

This paper was written by Dr. F. C. Clark but it contains certain statements, or deductions for which the present writer is alone responsible.

There came into the hands of the writer recently a set of the works of William Penn, published in London in 1726. It was once the property of Job Smith, a prominent man here in Providence in a business way, during the war of the Revolution, and the years following. On the back of one of the title pages Job Smith kept his family record, which is sufficiently curious and methodical to warrant a reproduction.

The Henry Smith named below, is the person from whom Smith's Hill took its name; he became Governor of R. I. in 1805 by reason of the death of both the Governor, and Deputy Governor.

Henry Smith—born 45 m. after 5 o'clock Monday, on ye 10th of February, A. D. 1766.

Benjamin Smith—born 23 m. after 3 o'clock in the morning of the 14th of January, A. D. 1768.

Sarah Smith—born 20 m. after 11 o'clock in the evening of ye 22nd day of February, 1770.

Dorcas Smith—born 50 m. after 10 o'clock in the evening of ye 24th day of May, 1772. DIED, Thursday 22nd Octob'r, about 11 o'clock in the morn-

ing, A. D. 1772, aged 5 months wanting two days.

Abigail Smith—born Monday morning, half after five o'clock, ye 29th November, 1773.

Thomas Smith—born 11 o'clock Thursday evening, 10 day of August, 1775. Died 4 o'clock Monday morning, 18 March 1776, aged 7 months 8 days.

Thomas Smith—born 10 o'clock Fryday evening, 2nd May, 1777.

Thomas Smith—born 4 o'clock Thursday morning, 17 June 1779. DIED first day morning 27th, 1780, aged one year, 2 months & 10 days.

Daughter—born about 4 o'clock in the morning, 8th February, 1781.—Abortive.

The above are all entered in the beginning of our Large New Bibel this 19th July, 1781.

Is the British Hosiery Company, one of those altruistic "sentiments" about which Kidd, in his *Social Evolution* writes so much? Altruistic means—"brotherly kindness—regard for the interests of others"—was the motive which brought these English owners here. one of "brotherly kindness?" Was the Dingley Tariff under which these owners of the British Hosiery Company hoped to gather millions of money from the American people—really an effort on their part to "protect American laborers?"

A precisely similar case, only very much more malignant, is that of the Interlaken Mills, at Arkwright, on the north branch of the Pawtuxet River. The stock is owned almost exclusively by the Winterbottom Book Cloth Co., of Manchester, England—who control the manufacture of such cloth the wide world over. They came here to scoop in millions of money from the American pockets by means of the Dingley Tariff. Was the enterprise altruistic—a movement for "brotherly kindness" and done out of regard for the interest

of their neighbors? The Winterbottom Company did not start a new enterprise—they bought out one which for years had been here established.

The report of the Committee to Investigate the causes of the depression in the Cotton Manufacturing business in Rhode Island has been made—it is a Document characteristic of these representatives of the people. It is wholly, or in effect contained in this extract from itself:

"As one of the leading manufacturers stated before the committee, that with all the information at his command he was unable to state any definite cause for the existing depression, it would be unwise for your committee with such knowledge as could be obtained in a short time to claim to have ascertained causes, or report remedies. The report is therefore limited to the statement of such facts as seemed to your committee to have a bearing upon the problem."

This committee comprised the following persons elected to represent the people: Charles D. Kimball, Nathan Littlefield, Livingston Scott, H. D. Hayden, H. G. H. Rawson, Philip Boucher, B. F. Robinson, Jr., Henry F. Anthony.

While they were writing that sentence flour was raised in price \$2.00 per barrel, beans 33 per cent., meats of all kinds from 10 to 25 per cent. and the wages of many of the men, whose votes put this Committee into the General Assembly, were cut a full 33 per cent.

When Joseph S. Pitman, enlisted in the army for the Mexican war Samuel Ames, subsequently Judge, said to him, "Joe, what did you do it for?" "Fame," answered Joe. "Fame," scornfully replied Ames, "some morning the *Journal* will print: 'Josh Pitkins, in the army in Mexico, from Indiana, killed by a kick of a mule.' Such is the chance of

fame. Charles Gorton died here in Providence; he left a sister Martha Gorton, and he left a collection of stone Indian relics which he had chiefly gathered in his peregrinations around Providence lying loose on the ground. The sister decided to give these relics to the city museum at Roger Williams Park. So the *Journal* announced a gift of such things by Martha Goslin. Then the *News* takes a haid and announces, not a gift from Martha Goslin, but a collection made by one Gorto. It is too bad.

The *New England Magazine* for May has an elaborate paper on Samuel Gorton, the founder of Warwick, R. I., written by Dr. Lewis J. Janes, which is beyond all question the fairest and the best paper ever written about this most conscientious, most just, and most maligned scholar and philosopher. I might almost say that it is really the first *true* word yet spoken for him. It is a long time to wait—two centuries—for a just estimate of a just man, and so far as Samuel Gorton himself is concerned, it can avail him nothing; but there are many men and women in this country who will now be able to point with pride to a descent from this truly great Englishman.

From another source *Book Notes* gathers the following note, which it also commends.

Samuel Gorton, who figured prominently in the first settlement of Rhode Island, was remarkable man, and on account of his peculiar political and religious opinions was much persecuted. Few historians have fully appreciated his originality and real greatness, and he has been much misjudged. "One of the most striking and picturesque figures in our colonial history," Dr. Lewis G. Janes calls Gorton in an important and valuable account of his career, in the *New England Magazine* for May. Dr. Janes has made a thorough study of Gorton's life and the influence

he exerted on his own time, and here ably sets forth his political and religious philosophy, showing what controversies Gorton was led into on account of the views which he held. In the clearer light of to-day his remarkable abilities can be more fully appreciated, and this careful history of his career by Dr. Janes is worthy tribute to an important man. The article is accompanied by pictures of various Rhode Island places which are associated with Gorton's name. Very meagre have been the account of Gorton's life and thought heretofore, and this scholarly tribute to his abilities will be appreciated far beyond the borders of Rhode Island. Scattered through the pages of the article are views of many Rhode Island places associated with Gorton's memory.

In history-making times like these a truthful record of passing events becomes an imperative need. The daily newspaper is ephemeral and not easily preserved for reference. The *American Monthly Review of Reviews* has all the value of the newspaper, besides distinctive merits of its own. As an epitome of current history it is complete, compact, terse, impartial, absolutely reliable, and judiciously edited. As a piece of journalistic history-writing what could be more brilliant or fascinating than the May number of this publication, with its story of the Spanish-American war-crisis? Merely as a souvenir of this past eventful month the *Review* has a certain unique fitness.

Old newspapers form an important item in domestic economy, and are useful for polishing window-glasses, for cleaning lamp chimneys for testing and cleaning flat-irons, and for a dozen other things; you will also need heaps of them when you come to pack away the winter clothing. The clothes-moth, like other evil-doers, has an aversion to printer's ink. An excellent moth-

proof bag, second only to the expensive tar-paper, and costing nothing, may be made of two thicknesses of newspaper, with the edges folded as if for an inch-wide hem, and securely pasted. Bags of the same kind are about the best thing you can use for keeping seeds and dried herbs. They are dust and insect proof, and can be labeled and hung in the store-room until needed.—*May Woman's Home Companion*.

There is one very serious objection to a bag made from newspapers. It is that the fibre of newspapers is so rotten and brittle that the bag would not "hold together" while you were making it.

Certain banking men raised a muss in the General Assembly about "days of grace," on commercial paper, and the General Assembly is asked to abolish them; well, what good will it be; those who have been given "days of grace" on notes have been always obliged to pay the interest for every minute there was in them. No grace no interest. Now let the General As-

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ssembly make it a penal offence on the part of any bank to count more days in reckoning interest, than there are days covered by the time stated in the note.

Prof. Jameson of Brown University has in the *Journal* a letter upon the political corrupt use of the school committee, in the punishment of teachers, otherwise faithful, for expressions of opinion upon city public matters, like the giving of the highways to private corporations. Ought the school committee to be used by these corporations as a means of repressing men from expressing an opinion -- or a means of punishing a man who holds an opinion? Prof Jameson shows admirable courage.

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VOL. 15.
No. 11.

The Poem, What Cheer.

In 1832 there was published in Providence a volume entitled, *What Cheer, or Roger Williams in Banishment. a Poem by Job Durfee Esq.* In the 24th verse of the first canto with reference to Williams' coming here the poet says: "But when the welcome of What Cheer! What Cheer!! Shall greet thine ears from Indian multitude. Cast then thine Anchor there."

The earliest use of those words What Cheer occurs in Williams' Key to the Indian Language. Mr. Williams says: "What Cheare netop is the general salutation of all English towards them. Netop is friend (*Narr. Club Vol 1 p. 31.*) This salutation thus came not from the Indians to Williams, but from Williams to the Indians. In 1657 Williams made a written statement concerning his acquisitions and disposition of lands here saying: "I yett reserved to myself the two Indian fields called What Cheare and Saxifrax hill." (*Early Rec. v 3 p. 111.*) So far as I know we have no other, or earlier references to these words.

The second edition of the poem *What Cheer* was published in Leeds, England in 1840 with an introduction or "Recommendatory Preface" as he styles it,

by the Rev. J. E. Giles of that city. This edition appears to be a tolerably accurate reprint of the original edition.

In 1833, Mr. Durfee became an associate Judge of the Supreme Court, and in 1835 he was made Chief Justice, which position he held until July 26, 1847, on which day he died. Charles Burnett, my first employer, a bright and clever bookseller here, at once formed a plan to have gathered and to publish the collected writings of Job Durfee; when about to publish the book Mr. Burnett died, and the publication fell to the lot of Gladding & Proud. It was published in 1849. In this volume was printed the third issue of the poem, in 1849, in the *Works* of Job Durfee; and recently a new edition—the fourth—has been published by Messrs. Preston & Rounds for ex-Chief Justice Thomas Durfee, the son of the author of the poem. The title now reads "revised and edited;" the editor, in a preliminary note says, "he has ventured to omit some of the stanzas, and to make changes in others." He further says: "the changes have been mostly slight and formal, and when more extensive have been made to modify, not the meaning but only the expression, making it clearer or more direct, or giving it an easier metrical movement." A

study of the construction of this poem with all the changes wrought into it from the first edition in 1832, to, and including the present edition, would be equivalent to a liberal education in literary work. The two books are very different from each other; that of 1896 is certainly very much improved in some respects over that of 1832; but it is not the work of Job Durfee. In the preface to the "works" in 1849 the editor, Thomas Durfee says: "Except the *Whatcheer*, and his published Addresses these writings are without the benefit of the author's final revision" so that we are to infer that *What Cheer* as therein printed was in the condition in which Job Durfee left it. The first canto had then 86 stanzas; it now has 83. But *four* of these stanzas remain as they were first written. In many cases the changes are slight, but in many others, are very great. This is an illustration. Stanza 66 as the author left it reads:

"Twere hard to tell my brother of the woods
What cause has forced his pale faced brother
here

The red and white men have their different
modes

And scant is Narraganset's tongue I fear
In fitting terms to teach my brothers ear
The themes of strife among white multitudes
Themes yet unknown within these forests
drear

Where undisturbed ye worship various gods
And persecution leave to white abodes.

As now revised, and edited, by Thomas Durfee, it appears as Stanza 63, and reads thus:

Twere hard to tell my brother of the woods
What cause has forced his pale-faced brother
here

The red and white men have their different
moods

And Narraganset's tongue lacks terms I fear
To tell the strifes among white multitudes
Strifes yet unknown within these forests drear
Where undisturbed ye worship various gods
And persecution leave to white abodes.

Of course this is greatly improved over the work that Job Durfee left. if the issue of 1849 represents that work—but it is *not* the work of Job Durfee, it is the

work of Thomas Durfee. An entire line is omitted and the word *modes*, meaning "manner of speaking," has been changed to *moods* meaning "temper of mind" in the common acceptance of the word.

Let me give one other illustration, viz. Canto First, stanza 5, as left by Job Durfee it reads:

On this drear night was Williams seated by
His blazing hearth his family beside,
And from his consort often burst the sigh
As still her task of needle-work she plied.

As this now appears it reads:

That night sate Williams, with his children by
The blazing hearth—his consort at his side:
And often did she heave the heavy sigh
As still her task of needle-work she plied.

This may have an easier metrical movement, but it limps in the history; Williams's second child; Freeborn, a girl, was not three months old, and hence could not probably have sate with Williams by the blazing hearth.

And so, BOOK NOTES might go through this book, it is unquestionably vastly improved metrically under the skillful handling of Thomas Durfee, but not in strength; if it was less smooth than it now is—it certainly was not less strong. There is scarcely a verse in the entire poem which is now as the author left it, and very great changes have been made by omissions, as is shown by the fact that upwards of Fifty verses are omitted from the work as originally published.

Suppose that Brown owed one thousand dollars, and that he had in one pocket five hundred dollars in gold, and in the other pocket five hundred dollars in silver, and he threw the silver into the sea—would not his creditor think him a fool? Well, how different was the act of 1873 in throwing away silver as money? There are men (in the newspapers, those organs of veracity) who write that the silver question is dead; the same men thought the Dred Scott

decision settled the question of human slavery in this country. BOOK NOTES is indebted to the Hon. Joshua Wilbur, U. S. Consul at Dublin, for recent papers, from which the following, concerning the question of silver in India is taken. This is from the London *Times*, a communication from Mr. Samuel Smith, M. P. There is but one possible answer to it :

"The silver currency of India was automatic, just like our gold currency. Silver cheapened in India under the same laws that caused gold to cheapen in England after the discoveries of the Californian and Australian mines. It produced the same effects of lightening debts and stimulating industry. Now the Government steps in and destroys this automatic currency and artificially raises the rupee till it is now 50 or 60 per cent above the value of the silver out of which it is coined. It is just as if the British Government had stopped the coinage of sovereigns in 1850, and forced up the value of the coined sovereign 50 per cent above the uncoined metal, and thereby added 50 per cent to every one's debts. In this country we should call it dishonesty; it is not otherwise in India. The improvement in the peasant's position is reversed; a fall of prices has set in which must steadily go on so long as this process continues. The budget of the peasant may now be reckoned as follows, assuming that the fall of prices continues, as it is sure to do:—In place of selling his crops for 100 rupees he will soon only get 80, but he has still to pay 30 rupees to the Government and money-lender, and will only have 50 rupees to keep his family instead of 70. He is so much nearer famine. In place of two meals a day he will perhaps only get one and his home will be stripped of any little comfort it possesses. The Government, which ought to be a father to the toiling millions, sacrifices them to the wealthy

money-lender. Every agricultural industry is thrown back—not only that of the small peasants, but the great tea, indigo, and coffee plantations, and also the cotton and jute manufactures, and all those new industries which are growing up in India, whereas China and Japan get an enormous advantage in competition with India. A quotation from a letter which recently appeared in your columns from Bombay puts the matter in a nutshell:—"Although it may appear sound in the eyes of the Finance Minister to produce a famine in rupees, and a consequent fall in the prices of commodities generally (including sovereigns), to all students of monetary science such a course is nothing less than a crime of the most serious and comprehensive order. A false rupee, an artificially created scarcity of money, and a 10 per cent. bank rate are not the most favourable conditions amid which to conduct business. A food famine is a very serious matter, but a money famine such as is now being deliberately induced by the Government of India is far more serious, for it involves not only the gradual asphyxia of trade enterprise and a certain decline in the rate of commercial progress but also a consequently widespread feeling in unhappiness, misery, and disaffection, which it should be the continuous endeavour of the British Government avoid." This policy is causing an indefinable feeling of misery and discontent in India; and apparently it will fail to attain the end the Government aim at—viz., the establishment of a gold standard."

That patriotism which sent young men to battle in 1861 was quite another thing from the call to fight in Cuba or in the Philippines. To fight for our firesides is not fighting to get another's fireside.

How the men who lobbied the present insurance law through the Rhode Island General Assembly can hold up their heads in this community is more than BOOK NOTES can understand. The writer knows them well, and he tells them frankly that their work was a disreputable legislative outrage, intended for deceit, for the purpose of making more money out of their ignorant customers. The 80 per cent "paster" act ought to be taken into court; it could never escape judicial condemnation.

A special despatch from New York, May 18, concerning Fire Insurance rates, states that "a panic exists, brought on by the disruption of the New York Tariff Association; and it has as yet shown no tendency to disappear; many risks were written yesterday (17th May) at absurdly low rates, the brokerage allowed being in many cases 40 per cent." * * * "The present panic is bound to grow worse for some months to come." Such is the report of insurance conditions in New York City. Now why do not these New York and English companies send new agents here to take risks? An immense saving could now be made by merchants who desire insurance here in Rhode Island to take their insurance to New York.

A few days since the Boston *Transcript*, a paper which should have known better, announced a gift of a thousand dollars to Whitman College, and an additional gift of a book concerning early American history "of very great value" permission being given the college to turn the invaluable volume into money in case it saw fit to do so. Imagine my astonishment when the *Transcript* gave the name of the book—*Carver's Travels*—certainly one dollar would be a round sum for the edition specified. We do not look in the *Transcript* for such sensational stuff as that.

The Union Trust Company foreclosed a mortgage on some property owned by one Hiram C. Pierce; this property, although costing Pierce a large excess in money above the mortgage, failed, under the present great depression, to sell for the amount of the mortgage by some \$620. Then the Trust Company levied, as under the law it had the power to do, upon whatever other property it could find owned by Pierce. When you mortgage your home you mortgage not only your home, but *every other* piece of property, of whatever kind and wherever situated, which you have. *The money value of the earth shrinks, but the money value of a mortgage never shrinks.* Such is the present condition of the law.

An entire page of the *Journal* consisting of mortgagee's sales of other men's homes; it is the direct result to the mortgagors of the destruction of silver as money in 1873. Probably the restoration of silver as money will *never* again become a political issue.

It came with the inscription with the compliments of the *Philistine*. It was a portrait of a man, calm, and placid, so far as outward expression went, but yet behind the deep set eyes, which gazed steadily at me there seemed to dwell a virile force which when aroused to action might make a valiant friend or a determined enemy. It was a presentation of the face of Elbert Hubbard who writes the *Philistine*, a little periodical, which, when I read, I thank my stars, that this Hubbard don't publish a forty page paper and like in character.

The *Philistine Magazine* is the torpedo boat of the literary squadron. It ventures into waters where the big craft dare not follow; and many a merry chase does the melancholy Jacques, who is its skipper, have in pursuit of strange sail. Whether they really lower their flag to this little terror of the seas is quite another matter. The issue

for June is full of good things, with a goodly cargo of ginger on the deck.

A little collection of short stories, written by Edith Townsend Everett has recently been published by Drexell Biddle, Philadelphia, under the name *A Duel with Destiny* which is the name of the first story in the book. To write a short story, well balanced, and with the climax properly introduced, requires much skill on the part of the writer, and this skill is made manifest in this first story in the book. It appeared originally in the "Times" at Philadelphia.

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The only complaint we have to make with Mr. Anthony J. Drexel's humorous stories, which he publishes under the name *Shantytown Sketches*, is that, made against *Book Notes*, too short. We want more, and oftener. *Shantytown Sketches* has run through four editions. Prettily bound on cloth for 25 cents.

Mr. Wilberforce Eames has just published a very learned monograph on *Early New England Catechisms*. The "early" is intended to include all such publications from the first settlement, to the year 1800. The subject has not before been handled by any bibliographer; it seems strange that it has not before been done; the influence upon the early New England life from the use of these catechisms has long been well understood. Since the careful and exhaustive work by Mr. Eames, this study by comparison, and by development, will be much facilitated. There is among our Rhode Island books a *Catechism and Comparison of Faith* by R. B. [Robert Barclay] printed at Newport 1752 which might well have been included in Mr. Eames' Bibliography. It is a Quaker Catechism, but it was not of New England origin.

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SATURDAY, June 11, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 12.

There came from Paris, France, in 1885, a French family to dwell in Providence, Sieur Jules Adrien Pirlot and his wife. Neither could speak a word of English. Pirlot was a French Doctor. Ignorance of the language prohibited him from the practice of medicine here, so he removed to Woonsocket, where many Canadian French families live. In Woonsocket he practiced medicine somewhat and gave instruction in the French language to many of the best American families. Mayor Pond's family was one, and Pirlot shows to this day the excellent letter of commendation which the late Mayor Pond wrote to him. In August, 1886, a fire destroyed the house in which Dr. Pirlot dwelt; his entire household furniture was destroyed, and with it were burned three diplomas given to Pirlot by the *Academie de Medecine, Faculte de Paris*. The wife of Pirlot died, and Pirlot himself removed to Boston; these facts are proved by a newspaper account of the fire, printed at the time and by other documents.

In October, 1886, a duplicate set of diplomas was sent to Pirlot by the *Academie de Medecine* to replace those burned, which read as below:

ACADEMIE DE MEDECINE.

FACULTE DE PARIS.

"Nous certifions par le present *Duplicata* que le Sieur Jules Adrien Pirlot, etudiant en medicine, 69^e Eg. St. Honore a Paris, a ete recu *Officier de Sante*. 23 Nov., 1871."

ACADEMIE DE MEDECINE.

FACULTE DE PARIS.

"Nous certifions par le present *Duplicata* que le Sieur Jules Pirlot officier de Sante, 144 Rue de Morny a Paris, a ete recu *Medecin*, 14 Dec, 1872."

ACADEMIE DE MEDECINE.

FACULTE DE PARIS.

"Nous certifions par le present *Duplicata* que le Sieur Jules Pirlot *Medicine*, 144 Rue de Morny, a Paris, a ete recu *Docteur* le 29 November, 1873.

These diplomas bear the signatures of the officers, and the seals of this celebrated School of Medicine.

Tardieu, Rigal, Blum.
President. Le Comite. Secretaire.

Becoming more fluent in the use of the English language, Dr. Pirlot determined to enter upon the practice of medicine, and he applied in Boston to

be registered as a physician. This was done, as the following certificate attests:

COMMONWEALTH OF MASS-
ACHUSETTS.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE.

This is to certify

That Julius Adrian Pirlot of Revere, a Graduate of Faculte de Medecin, Paris, France, in the year 1873, a legally chartered medical college or university, having power to confer degrees in medicine has been registered by this Board."

C. EDWIN MILES, Chairman.

EDMUND J. FOSTER.

Boston, 19 November, 1894.

Finally Dr. Pirlot, late in 1897, resolved to come back to Providence, where, in 1885, he had first planted himself, opened a small apothecary shop and wished to prescribe for such as chose to employ him. The shop was opened and Dr. Pirlot applied to our State Board of Health for a Certificate of Registration to Practice Medicine. He was at first encouraged, but delay after delay confronted him, and sickness came at last as an ally to misfortune; Dr. Pirlot's slender financial resources were soon exhausted, himself arrested, confronted by "spotter" testimony obtained at the request of Dr. Swarts, Secretary of the State Board, and member *ex officio*. The case was sent by Judge Sweetland to the Grand Jury, an indictment was found, which was quashed by the Appellate Court; another indictment on the same evidence was found, a trial to a jury resulted in a verdict against Dr. Pirlot; this trial also was set aside by the Appellate Court upon an error in a ruling by Judge Wilbur—and thus the case now rests—so far as the Board of Health stands in relation to Dr. Pirlot, the law stands thus: Sec. 3. The State (of R. I.) Board of Health *shall*, upon application, issue a certificate to any respectable physician who desires

to practice medicine in this State who possesses any of the following qualifications:

First—A diploma from a reputable and legally chartered medical college—*endorsed as such by the State Board of Health* (*Gen. Laws, p. 491.*)

It is not a question of discretion with the State Board whether it will issue a certificate, the law is mandatory; it *shall* issue to any respectable man who holds a diploma from a "reputable and legally chartered medical college." Is not the *Academie de Medicine* of France chartered, and is it not reputable? Previous to the submission of three diplomas by Dr. Pirlot had the State Board voted *not to endorse* the *Academie de Medicine*?

No attempt has been made to show that these diplomas given to Dr. Pirlot were fraudulent; their genuineness has never been questioned, nor does it appear that the State Board of Health of Rhode Island has ever refused to "endorse as *reputable* and *legally established* the *Academie de Medicine* of France, the most ancient and most distinguished school of medicine in that country, and in fact in all the world, over which then presided Auguste Tardieu, whose autograph was affixed to Dr. Pirlot's diploma. Will the R. I. State Board endorse as "*disreputable*" such a school, or refuse to recognize the diplomas which it issues. It is a case for a mandamus—and an action for damages would lie against the Board of Health for illegally causing Dr. Pirlot so much loss of money and so much annoyance.

The *Ladies' Home Journal* shows a record of success almost without a parallel in this country—it has 22 staff editors; it has 15,000 working agents on the road; it has received in a single day over 18,000 subscriptions; 300,000 copies of every issue are sold by the news stands; and it has a subscription list of

upwards of 425,000 names. This can result only from superlative excellence.

BOOK NOTES thanks Mr. Henry E. Tiepke, Commissioner of Industrial Statistics, for the *Monthly Bulletins* which he regularly sends to it.

The net result in Providence of the agitation of the reformation of Taxation thus far has been a refusal of the representatives of the people in the General Assembly to consider the question at all—and a close call to an increase in the Tax rate by the representatives of the people in the City Council—So too it was in Massachusetts—Perhaps the agitation of the question will cease—the Anti Slavery agitation ceased; twenty-five years agitation of the Slave system resulted in the Dred Scot decision, by the U. S. Supreme Court; you know what happened after that.

Nothing in the "Periodical" line has ever struck so sympathetic a chord in the writer as did the receipt of the *Saturday Evening Post* for the 28th of May, which was sent to BOOK NOTES by its new publishers the *Curtis Publishing Company*. It is a veritable phoenix, making for us weekly nests of spices, then burning itself to ashes out of which it comes forth with new life every hundred years. By sending one dollar (\$1.00) during this June to the publishers at Philadelphia you will receive the beautiful *Ladies Home Journal*, which this same firm issues, and the *Saturday Post* also, until Jan. 1899. The yearly price for the "Post" will be \$2.50. It is excellent.

It is pleasing to watch the intellectual development of children, and not less true is it, in cases of contemporaries; every one must have observed this development in my excellent compatriot *The News* under its recent management. This clipping cleverly illus-

trates my meaning—it was of the 10th of May:

"There has been in all Spanish history the sacrifices of the many to the gain of the few. The methods of gain through public administration in our American politics, that sooner or later are inevitably exposed, amount to a well organized system in Spanish administration wherever found, with the added sacrifice of lives as well as the robbery of the people."

The only failure here was in the caption, it should have been "a characterization of the Dingley "Protective" Tariff. Let BOOK NOTES illustrate it a bit further. The United States began a war against Spain for the express purpose of preventing that country from oppressing the Cubans by taxation—a tariff duty of something like \$6.00 had been levied on flour—it was in order to pinch the many for the gain of the few," as the "*News*" says.

The other day the United States Congress put an import duty of 10 cents a pound on wool for the express purpose of enabling certain rich men to scoop millions of dollars from the many who work, calling it *protecting* labor. We were obliged to give the owners of the National Worsted Mills, at Olneyville, thousands of dollars for *absolutely nothing in return for the money*. It was a purely legal robbery. Was not the Cubans taxed, and was not I also taxed—the first by Spain, my self by Congress. The Cuban's was purely a revenue tax, for the support of the Spanish Government, while I was taxed, and so too are you, to enrich the owners of some woolen mill.

The *Journal* on the 31st May, stated, in heavy type, that on that day, wheat would sell at \$2.00 per bushel. But it didn't. It sold instead at \$1.25; and the day following wheat sold for \$1.08, and since it has fallen to 1.02. The *Journal* has not informed us that this tremen-

dous fall in prices was caused by a sudden discovery of the increase on hand. Not a grain had been added to the existing supply. One of three things is true; the *Journal* knew nothing about it; or it knew all about it and falsified; or it was used to deceive men. The *Springfield Republican* on May 11th, showed most clearly, under the caption "The Bread Conspiracy," that the increase in the selling price for wheat and bread was a matter of speculation, and not of scarcity, closing the admirable paper with this paragraph:

"No, it is not a legitimate advance, but a product of speculative manipulation for which men would have been hanged years ago. As a consequence flour is moving up at the rate of about 50 cents a barrel every two or three days. Nobody should think, however of buying more than is required for immediate needs. The conspirators cannot hold out long, and the fall when it comes will be as violent as the rise."

In just three weeks the absolute truth of that paper was shown, and on the 3rd June the *Republican* had the satisfaction of printing this:

"We were at pains some days ago to point out the absurdity of the supposition, held pretty generally by the trade papers, that the Leiter wheat prices during May were based on natural causes or conditions. But we do not need to say more on that point. The course of the market since the close of the May corner is exhibiting the facts in the case and the desperate nature of what appears to have been an international conspiracy to double the price of bread."

If the American people submit peaceably to such a transaction as this "Leiter's" was, they deserve to be slaves, just as this deal made them. Is it safe to permit men to get and use money (money which was the result of

other men's labor) in starving the very men who earned the money.

On the 10th May the *Journal* in a column leader, said, "In this country the effect of the deal (in wheat) has not existed in an oppressive form; it is true that quotations for flour have doubled, but the people seem able to pay the added increment representing the advance in the cereal." Fortunately the person who wrote that is hidden. But look at this sentence which immediately follows: "But it is useless to deny that the rise has now been so great as to injure the living resources of millions of Americans." Is it to circulate such stuff as that, that the *Journal* is printed.

Mr. A. J. Drexel Biddle has recently written what he styles a biographical romance entitled *Word for Word and Letter for Letter*, a name which is significant of the character of the story—*lex talionis*. The scenes are laid in fashionable centers in this country—one of them being Newport, R. I.—and in England, and at the island of Madeira, where the grand climacteric took place. The story is intensely dramatic, the readers' interest begins with the opening and ends only with the closing of the story. The book is finely illustrated by Holloway, and published in London, England by Gay & Bird. The price is 75 cents. The best among recent books concerning the island of Madeira is the one written by Mr. A. J. Drexel Biddle.

The Baker & Taylor Co. of New York City have issued the *second* of their Librarians' Help series. It is an annotated list of books relating to Spain, Cuba, Naval History, Naval Science, International Law, &c. The books are priced, are such as are now for sale, and notes are added. Let BOOK NOTES add a title

or two—"Historia de la Isla de Cuba, por Du Pedro J. Guiteras, 2 v. 1865," \$1.25; "Letters written in the interior of Cuba, between the mountains of Arcana in the east and Cusco in the west (1828)," by Abiel Abbott, D. D., 75 cts.; "Poems by a Slave in the Island of Cuba," translated from the Spanish by R. R. Madden, with two pieces descriptive of Cuban slavery and the slave traffic (1840), \$1.00. These, Book NOTES has for sale.

Twice each week, as regularly as the flow of the tides, the *Journal* prints an entire page of mortgagee's sales of other

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men's homes, by the holders of mortgages. A mortgage is not property, since it is only *property* which shrinks in value. When you mortgage your home you mortgage to the same party every cent's worth of property which you have. Now all this shrinkage in the value of your homes came to you by the throwing away of silver as money in 1873, but the man who held a mortgage over you suffered no loss—he only took his personal advantage of your unfair treatment under the law to obtain property at half the value of it.

The writer has a pair of rubber boots which are now in excellent condition after a constant use, every winter, during the past thirty-three years. Compare this record with that of the rubber shoes you are now forced to buy. The quality is positively worthless. For all these years you have been taxed to "protect" this infant industry into existence—just see what it has cost you and what you now get for this cost. This rubber works business was tainted with fraud from the very beginning.

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SATURDAY, June 25, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 13.

The Terrible Case of Ellen Cosgrove in the Rhode Island Courts.

There lived on Gano Street, in Providence, in 1890, a woman by name Ellen Cosgrove. She was laborious, prudent and economical. After years of work and of savings, she bought the estate on which she lived. It was lot No. 195 on the What Cheer plat and directly upon the bank of the Seekonk river. In her own house she dwelt, and the unoccupied parts of it she rented to three tenants. This estate she bought in 1884, paid for it, and had besides, two thousand dollars in the Savings Bank. There was neither debt nor encumbrance of any kind upon it. Ellen Cosgrove owed no man a penny. In an evil hour there came a man to dwell next door, one Merz by name, perhaps a German Jew. This man bought the estate lying next to that which Ellen Cosgrove owned. It was lot No. 196 on the same plat. The land of both lots descended towards the bank of the river, while the front of each was at grade or nearly so with the street. Merz desired to fill the rear of his land and bring it to grade, but this he could not do without encroaching upon Ellen Cosgrove's lot, save by a retaining wall

or some similar contrivance; so Merz endeavored to induce Ellen Cosgrove to fill her lot also; this would have saved Merz the cost of the wall. This appears in the Master's (Southwick's) Report, under the Bill in Equity, brought to recover the property.

"There was a motive why the respondents, Merz (or Rohrich) should have wished to rebuild the cellar wall and raise the house, which was that they might complete the fillings of Mr. Merz's own lot adjoining without entirely covering the cellar of Miss Cosgrove's house."—(Master's Report)

"This motive was doubtless because it would have cost him (Merz) a greater sum to have built a retaining wall along the line between his land and that of Miss Cosgrove's, strong enough to prevent the falling of earth upon Miss Cosgrove's land."—(Master's Report)

Ellen Cosgrove's house had been built to fit the contour of the land, and it was well filled with tenants. By filling her lot she would lose one "room or place" for a tenant; a shoemaker then occupied it. But Merz began his filling and more or less earth fell upon Ellen Cosgrove's land. This put her to great inconvenience, and deprived her of one tenant. She scolded and

threw the earth back upon Merz's lot, and endeavored to stop Merz from annoying her; with this success; at the September term 1890 with the assistance of Mr. H. J. Dubois, an Attorney at Law, Merz and his wife instituted a suit against her, laying their damages at \$1000, but giving specifications amounting to about \$45 00.

Deputy Sheriff Johnson read the writ (of summons) to Ellen Cosgrove who understood about as much of it, or what it meant, as Johnson would have understood had I read to him a chapter from the Hitopadesa—to wit—nothing at all. She took no notice of it. So Mr. Dubois obtained judgment by her default for the entire specified "damages" which he asked; which with the costs came to \$51.40. An execution was taken, and Dep. Sheriff Johnson then levied on "*all the right, title and interest*" which Ellen Cosgrove had in the estate and on the 5th of September, 1891. Johnson at "a pretended auction sale" (so reads the bill in equity) sold Ellen Cosgrove's house and land to the wife of Merz for \$25.00. There were 5000 feet of land, and a three story house, holding four tenants. Three days later Sept 8th, Johnson as Deputy Sheriff gave his deed of Ellen Cosgrove's house and lot in consideration of \$25.00 obtained under a judgment by default in an action which cannot be considered as founded upon anything other than a fraudulent claim, Merz being the real aggressor. Merz made no immediate attempt to take forcible possession of "his property." For more than two years he waited, in fact he never under *this* action made the attempt; nor did he make any effort to collect from her bank deposits the unpaid balance of his judgment; having bought her house and lot for \$25.00, there remained due on his judgment \$26.40. But Ellen Cosgrove's tenants instigated by somebody other than by herself, refused to pay their rents to her, or to vacate her

house. This so angered her that she at last made a technical assault upon one of them, by name, Andrew G. Baker. Mr. H. J. Dubois the Attorney for Merz then brought an action against Ellen for assault and "trespass de bonis asportis" this last may have been the throwing of one of Baker's chairs out of the window. The damage was laid at \$1000. The case was brought in Dec. 1891. Ellen Cosgrove was afflicted with some mental derangement, she had in fact been treated for insanity. The Court appointed a *Guardian ad litem*, Mr. C. F. Baldwin, a pupil of Mr. Ervin T. Case; both are now dead. Mr. Baldwin as *Guardian ad litem*, employed Mr. E. L. Gannon (in his own office) to defend the suit, for which Ellen Cosgrove was made to pay Gannon \$110 for an imaginary service. This second case was the direct outcome of the suit first brought by Merz. It was tried to a jury and a verdict was given against Ellen Cosgrove for \$115, of which sum \$25 was for the technical assault and \$90 for the "de bonis asportis." Execution again followed, and Dep. Sheriff Ham sold "all her right title and interest" in her home. What right title or interest Ellen had, after Dep. Sheriff Johnson's sale two years previously Mr. Ham did not explain. A person, one Ernest Nachtrieb, bid off the home of Ellen for \$265; on the 30th March, 1893, Ham as Dep. Sheriff, gave this Nachtrieb a deed of Ellen Cosgrove's house; and on the same day Nachtrieb took from Merz and his wife a quit claim deed of Ellen's house and lot which Mrs. Merz bought, or somebody in her name bought, at the Johnson sale for \$25, the consideration in this quit claim was \$225. On the same day March 30, Nachtrieb gave a warranty deed to Elizabeth Rohrich (a sister of Mrs. Merz) of Ellen Cosgrove's property and disappears from the scene. Concerning these transactions the Master (Southwick) says:

"The fleeting intervention of Nach-

tribe between Merz and his (Merz's) wife and the said Rohrich (Merz's wife's sister) contemporaneously with the second sheriff's deed to Nachtrieb and conveyance by him to said Rohrich seems to prove collusion between all the parties." (Master's Report.)

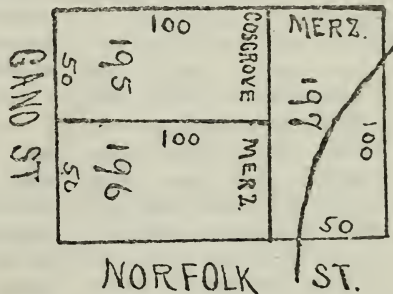
At this point let me digress,—

The judgment in the Baker case was \$146.46; Dep. Sheriff Ham sold her estate for \$265. There was a surplus due to Ellen Cosgrove, who was then living, of \$118.54, less Mr. Ham's expenses, but this surplus was never paid to her. While investigating this case the writer applied at the office of the State Treasurer where such balances go, to learn if this Ellen Cosgrove balance was there; and we were told that it had never been returned. A few weeks later when it came to be known that the writer was studying this case, the money was placed in the Treasurer's office, and information thereof came to me. Mr. Ham's expenses, if the sum returned to the Cosgrove estate was correct (\$76.) were \$42.54. But no return was shown to me. \$75 was taken from a desk, loose, and \$1 from the Clerk's (Clark's) pocket. It is impossible to understand how such a charge could fairly be made, and unless I have been misinformed by the proper officers, Ellen Cosgrove's money was held five years by the officer.

The Supreme Court of R. I. held in the case against Wilcox herein alluded to that "a Sheriff while he has duties to perform towards a creditor, has also duties to the debtor, and to the public; as an officer of the State appointed to execute the laws, he is bound to take care that these laws be not through his instrumentality made a means of abuse, or of oppression." (10 R. I. 408) It would be well in considering these matters to note that that is *to-day* the law in Rhode Island.

On the 4th of October, 1893, this woman

Rohrich, brought a suit of ejectment against Ellen Cosgrove from her own home. Rohrich was given judgment on the 18th of November, 1893. Ellen was set into the street, bag and baggage became insane, was sent to the Insane Asylum at the State Farm, where she died leaving the Rohrich, and the Merz's in full possession. This ejectment was in the winter, 20th Dec. 1893. Ellen Cosgrove died at the State Farm, 29th June 1895. Now let us see how these people managed Ellen Cosgrove's home. On the 29th of June, 1894, Merz bought of the West Providence Land Company, lot No. 197 on the What Cheer plat, directly in the rear of his own, and of Ellen Cosgrove's land. Here is the plat:



No. 195 was Cosgrove's; 196 was Merz's; 197 was the new purchase by Merz; the curved line representing the river bank; as a matter of fact the river was several hundred feet distant from lot 197; but the land was much lower than either 195 or 196. On the 10th Oct. 1894, Rohrich negotiated a mortgage for \$700. on Ellen Cosgrove's house and lot, and then next proceeded to have ashes and rubbish generally, carted in, to fill Merz's two lots, but never brought the Cosgrove land fully up to grade. Thus Ellen Cosgrove's property was encumbered and Merz's lot and his new lot brought to grade. Under the Decree of the Court this mortgage was ordered paid, and was paid, by Ellen Cosgrove's heirs, with Ellen Cosgrove's

money, and so the Court made Ellen Cosgrove pay for filling Merz's lots and possibly to pay for the new lot, No. 197, which Merz had bought. At the March term of the Court, 1895, a Bill in Equity was filed by the heirs of Ellen Cosgrove to recover the property. Herbert Almy and James M. Gilrain were counsel for the heirs. The opinion of the Court was given, 8th of May, 1897; the Court gave the heirs leave to redeem the estate, but they were ordered to pay the mortgage \$700 which Rohrich had placed upon Ellen Cosgrove's property and further sums to such an amount as nearly to bankrupt the estate. Merz had doubled his holdings of land and brought all (*except the Cosgrove lot*) to grade; and nine lawyers, (whose names I do not here print) and three Dep. Sheriffs had fattened upon the pecuniary carcass of this lone woman.

Fiat justitia ruat cælum.

Thus stands this terrible case; barring my own ignorance of the laws, and my unfamiliarity in the use of legal language, it is correctly presented. The original cause of action lay in Ellen Cosgrove, for she had a real grievance against John C. Merz; hence the original action was fraudently brought, and the foundation being fraudulent, the entire structure should have been overthrown. The defendants, Merz and Rohrich were wrongfully in possession of Ellen Cosgrove's house and land; for the second sale, under which they held was the result of Merz's original wrong; while in possession they used water, for which the Court made Ellen Cosgrove pay; and the taxes which they paid, Ellen was made to repay to them. The report of the Master (Southwick) seems so clear a statement that to an untutored mind it is difficult to understand why (a majority of) the Court did but partially sustain it. The Master said:

"A view of all the circumstances of this cause appears to the undersigned to show that Mrs. Rohrich was not an innocent purchaser for value." (Master's Report).

"She (Mrs. Rohrich) was not without notice of equities in favor of Miss Cosgrove." (Master's Report.)

There is not the slightest doubt of the solid foundation of those two propositions; hence to order the payment of the Rohrich mortgage was a wrong to Ellen Cosgrove's heirs.

Upon this point the Master said: "If he (Merz) through an agent (Mrs. Rohrich) has reaped a benefit to his adjoining estate by means resulting in an injury to that of Miss Cosgrove, it seems equitable that he should pay for a restoration of her property to a reasonably satisfactory condition (Master's Report.) It not only *seems* reasonable, but it *is* reasonable. Why should the laws be used to force Ellen Cosgrove to fill land for Merz? Ellen Cosgrove was a poor, uneducated woman; her chief vice was her economy—she saved her money, but she saved it chiefly for Merz, and Rohrich, and some lawyers; the law was used as a club with which to beat out her brains; she had been treated for insanity, and this action finished the job, by sending her to the insane asylum at the State Farm, where she died. Nothing in the way of legal atrocity of which I have knowledge here in Rhode Island equals this Cosgrove case, unless it may be the case of Aldrich *versus* Ansel Carpenter, a deputy sheriff, and Randall B. Wilcox, a constable. The Supreme Court of Rhode Island set aside this (latter) sale and ordered the property reconveyed "on the ground of oppression, and inadequacy of price" (to R. I. Reports 405). This Wilcox case was an abominable legal outrage. Some day the story ought to be re-told. It is but a dream to fancy that security to us lies in the

laws, and that lawyers, and courts and justice are synonymous terms. One of the best of these Deputy Sheriffs told the writer that fully half the writs were fraudulent; thus the laws, and the lawyers were for our undoing. The conventional figure of the statue of justice is a woman blindfold, holding at an equipoise the scales of justice; if such cases as are herein noted can be successfully carried out, let the figure be that of the Devil moulded in asphalt with the "Scales" of Justice formed from the skins of serpents in one hand, and one of these fraudulent writs in the other.

Current History for the first quarter of the year 1868 has just been issued. *Current History* is a periodical, octavo in form, issued quarterly, in which the history of events transpiring all over the world are chronologically and with regularity and with method written out. It costs by post only \$1.50 per annum. There is positively no way, in which a busy man can so quickly, so cheaply and yet so thoroughly acquire

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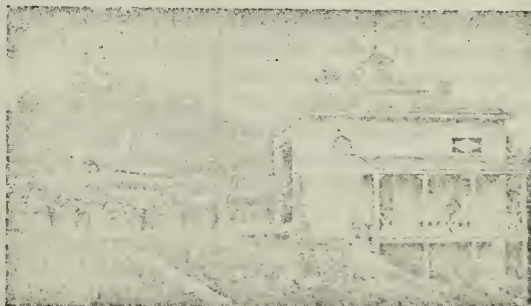
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The State Board of Health in its crusade against Dr. Jules A. Pirlot has been beaten. The Board ought now to be punished for its illegal action in oppressing Dr. Pirlot. There was never any foundation for the action of Dr. Swarts; he was in the wrong from the beginning. Dr. Pirlot came with three Diplomas from the Academie de Medicine, Faculte de Paris. This is a chartered institution. The Highest Medical College in France. The law of Rhode Island says "The State Board of Health *shall* upon application issue a certificate to any respectable physician who desires to practice medicine in this state who possesses any of the following qualifications. First, A diploma from a respectable and legally chartered medical college, endorsed as such by the State Board of Health. (*General Laws of R. I. p. 491.*)

"It is not a question of discretion with the State Board whether it will issue a certificate, the law is mandatory; it *shall* issue to any respectable man who holds a diploma from a reputable and legally chartered medical college." Is not the *Academie de Medicine* of France chartered, and is it not reputable? Previous to the submission of three diplomas by Dr. Pirlot had the

state board voted *not to endorse* the Academie de Medicine?"

The State Board even had it taken action, of which there is no evidence shown, could not, in the face of the Diplomas held by Dr. Pirlot, require a medical examination to be submitted to by him. The law reads: "Any person *not* qualified as hereinbefore provided (that is, with a diploma) before practicing shall submit to such an examination as the Board may require." (Gen. Laws R. I., sec. 3, p. 492.) Hence Dr. Swarts was wholly outside of the law, in his action towards Dr. Pirlot. In another respect the case had no foundation. Dr. Pirlot charged nothing, nor was he paid anything for consultation—consultation was free. The law requires that a practitioner of medicine in order to become amenable to this statute, *must* be paid something, "for reward or compensation," or he cannot be stopped. That Dr. Pirlot was paid was never shown, nor attempted to be shown, by the State Board of Health.

The nasty fling by the *Journal* at Dr. Pirlot, comparing his act, to the acts of Bar Room keepers under the Raines law, in that, by *giving* a drink, with a *paid* for sandwich the penalty was

evaded, discloses the ignorance of the *Journal* or its willful malevolence. The act of Dr. Pirlot was a *provision* of the law, he not only acted within the law, but in obedience to it. The Bar Room keeper can find no such provision in the Raines Law. People have been led to look to the *Journal* for an honest (at least) statement of such cases.

Hence the case against Pirlot which the State Board has pushed for two years has been hopelessly lost—it ought never to have been started. Under the law it was the bounden duty of the State Board to issue at once a certificate to Dr. Pirlot, or refuse to endorse as reputable the French Academy of Medicine. It did neither. Had it performed the duty which the law required, this case could never have arisen. It is outside of argument that in case I procure, or lead a person to do a wrong, I cannot punish him for the wrong committed. That is precisely this case, for Dr. Swarts, secretary of the Board of Health (but merely a member of the board, *ex-officio*) used to Dr. Pirlot, a phrase of double meaning—as Dr. Pirlot understood it, he would not be molested, but as Dr. Swarts doubtless intended, it had a double meaning, hence arose the suit. By the illegal action of the board Dr. Pirlot has been put to large expense. Dr. Swarts under oath declared that the Board refused to grant the certificate; unless the record of the State Board of Health, in actual meeting, can be produced, showing such action, the secretary of the board, Dr. Swarts, will be placed in a very awkward position. The Board of Health was founded for the purpose of giving an individual a "pull" on the state treasury. The actual members receive nothing for their services; the secretary only is paid; hence the actual members, receiving nothing, do nothing—the general health of the people has not been benefited; a

greater percentage of the sick die; the death rate is being gradually increased. The State Board of Health as now run does nothing but evil, it ought to be reconstructed on new lines. If BOOK NOTES has been correctly informed, as it does not doubt, there were matters connected with the "spotter" witness, McGuire, which should have been laid before the Jury; and the writer of BOOK NOTES believes that had these matters been so presented, and substantiated, the State Board of Health would have been destroyed.

The *Atlantic Medical Weekly* is an exceedingly well conducted contemporary of BOOK NOTES here in Providence. On all questions of the restoration of a sick man to health by the use of drugs, or with the knife, we as gracefully (as possible) submit. But when it comes to a question of literature, we take our "inning." In the latest issue of the *Medical Weekly* we are told, that "John G. Saxe blessed the man who first invented sleep." Somehow BOOK NOTES had "imbibed" the impression that that idea came from Cervantes, out of his *Don Quixote*; his words were "Blessings light on him who first invented sleep." In case the *Medical Weekly* is correct, Cervantes in 1605, must have been anticipated by Saxe who wrote in 1860.

There was recently tried, in the Common Pleas Court, before Mr. Justice Wilbur, one Eddie Peck, a child 14 years of age against whom Attorney General Tanner held an indictment found by a recent Grand Jury for having "carnal knowledge" as the *Journal* states it, of a girl (child) 13 years of age. Just for one moment consider of this abominable legal outrage,—a positive disgrace upon every man connected with it. No such suit ought ever to have been stirred up by the lower officers; and if stirred up, by the lower officers,

it ought to have been promptly stopped by the higher officers

An exceedingly curious and interesting little story has just been issued by Drexel Biddle, Philadelphia, entitled *The Revenge of Lucas Helm*. It was written by Auguste Blondel, and published in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. The inventive imagination of the author has produced strangely attractive situations, which the translator appears to have preserved with much skill. The price of the pretty cloth bound book is 50 cents.

It is a wise policy pursued at the College of Agriculture at Kingston to suggest local historical subjects as theses for graduating students. The present year was marked by four or five such papers. One of them was upon "Slavery in Washington County." This county, or section of Rhode Island, was the chief section of negro slavery in this state. It was treated by Miss Martha R. Flagg, of Kingston, and a synopsis of her paper was printed in the *Narragansett Times*. The synopsis does not do justice to the diction, or style, or composition, of Miss Flagg; but it fairly represents Miss Flagg's labor in making researches; and it betrays her natural propensity to fall upon those things in ancient times which entertain, as well as instruct; there is nothing duller than poking over the dry bones of the ancients; but this young woman knows how to "poke," and shake the dust from her fingers when she writes.

"Two Philadelphia lawyers have been disbarred for unprofessional conduct. One man erased with acids the record of a mortgage. The other was guilty of barratry, that is, he made a practice of inciting others to lawsuits and litigation. This man sent agents or runners to persons who had been injured in

accidents, or who imagined that they had some grievance against others. He advised them to bring suit, and agreed that all moneys recovered should be equally divided between lawyer and client. This constitute a crime, and the man was disbarred. The traditional "Philadelphia lawyer" is supposed to be a shrewd person, but this man went too far, and meets with his just deserts, and dozens of others like him should be punished."

This practice of instigating lawsuits is the chief business here in Providence of many members of the bar. Not long since a lawyer here "bought" a case for \$250, and then brought suit against a manufacturing company for \$10,000—fortunately the transaction was uncovered. Jury packing is coolly discussed here as an everyday occurrence. When as a member of the grand jury I personally laid a case before Judge Wilbur, he refused to assist or direct me. Is it not almost time that men outside of the bar took these matters in hand? If the bar and the courts have come to such uses as were shown in the Terrible Case of Ellen Cosgrove in a recent *BOOK NOTES*, it is time that both were destroyed and something else tried in the name of Justice.

The only complaint we have to make with Mr. Anthony J. Drexel's humorous stories, which he publishes under the name *Shantytown Sketches*, is that, made against *Book Notes*—too short. We want more, and oftener. *Shantytown Sketches* has run through four editions. Prettily bound on cloth for 25 cents.

Mr. Thomas W. Bicknell has published a new History of Barrington, R. I. I say new, for the reason that in 1870 Mr. Bicknell published what he entitled "An Historical Address and Poem" at the centennial celebration of

the town, which was a duodecimo volume of nearly 200 pages. The present History is a goodly octavo of 620 pages. It is a record breaker so far as Rhode Island Town History is concerned. The town of Barrington has an intermittent history—it was a town, and then not a town, and then a town again. It only began its history as a Rhode Island town in 1770. Of the 37 towns in this state 28 are more ancient. It is too soon for Book NOTES to present a careful and competent analysis of the work, but it will give instead the commendation which Mr. Edward Field, of the Record Commissioners gives it—"and I wish to congratulate you on the systematic and comprehensive plan which you have followed in its preparation. The story of this ancient town is told in chronological order without that tiresome repetition so often found in similar works. Your chapter on the Revolution, which especially appeals to me, is a book in itself, and will be of the greatest consequence to those who claim Barrington soldiers for ancestors, as it will give to them the full service of the patriots of that old town. The genealogist, too, will find a rich store of material, which, I believe, has never before been brought to light."

When one considers the rent exacted from the Public Library (\$5000) for the room on Snow street which it uses, it seems to every one enormous. The near approach to evacuation by the Library renders a new renting of the locality inevitable and it is safe to say that no such sum can be exacted from another tenant. It would not have been possible had it not been for the "immovable" character of the Library being taken advantage of by the lessors.

Mr. Wilberforce Eames has just published a very learned monograph on *Early New England Catechisms*. The "early" is intended to include all such publications from the first settlement to the year 1800. The subject has not before been handled by any bibliographer; it seems strange that it has not before been done; the influence upon the early New England life from the use of these catechisms has long been well understood. Since the careful and exhaustive work by Mr. Eames, this study by comparison, and by development, will be much facilitated. There is among our Rhode Island books a *Catechism and Comparison of Faith* by R. B. [Robert Barclay] printed at Newport 1752 which might well have been included in Mr. Eames' Bibliography. It is a Quaker Catechism, but it was not of New England origin.

Three book cases, each capable of containing from 300 to 500 books are for sale at very low prices at 52 Snow Street. Two have glass doors.

Note the list of First, or other early editions of the American Poets on the last page of this issue.

Mr. Tiepke's *Monthly Bulletin* for June 20th has an interesting paper on the commercial interests of the United States with the Phillipine Islands. The combined commerce of the European Governments do not equal the commerce with this country; to which European governments then shall we surrender them.

Have the inhabitants of Cuba, or of the Phillipines complained of having a system of government forced upon them which they do not want—will they miss the Spanish export duties.

The August *Ladies' Home Journal* will be made up almost entirely of fiction. There are promises seven or eight short stories, in addition to Julia Magruder's serial, "A Heaven-Kissing Hill," which is brought to its conclusion in August. Julian Hawthorne, John Kendrick Bangs, Abbe Carter Goodloe, Clara Morris, Swell Ford and others have contributed their best short stories, which are to be illustrated by the most popular American artists.

Success is a very Success, among the illustrated monthlies—only a dollar a year.

The *Woman's Home Companion* (saving myself) is the cleverest visitor at the domicile of Book Notes.

A set of the "Manufacturer and Farmer's Journal" which is the semi-weekly issue of the *Providence Journal* from 1833 to July 1869, both years inclusive is in the hands of the publisher of Book Notes to be sold. There are but nine (9) numbers missing in the entire set. Price \$50.00

It seems strange to see a newspaper with any pretention to decency advocating the retention of filth in the water which the poorer classes in Providence are forced by the city government to drink, but that is just the position which the *Evening Telegram* takes. It editorially opposes the taking of filth out of the water we drink.

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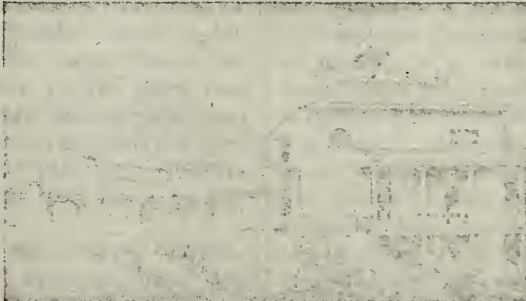
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VOL. 15.
No. 15.

The Question as to Isolation and Quarantine in Sickness.

It should be needless for me to begin this paper with a protestation, that my only interest lies in the defence of personal liberty; there is too much interference with private personal rights, on the part of officials, and of corporations, and of individuals. Such things will never cease, unless we assault them. The more we submit, the more we shall have to endure.

Emit Wackerling is a German, having a wife and three children, living at 306 Lockwood Street. On the 12th of April one child became sick. The case ran along for six days, when it was decided to be scarlet fever, and on April 18th the family was quarantined, and Wackerling lost his situation, losing all income for upwards of six weeks. May 1st the second child developed a case of the same disease, and ten days later, May 11, the third case came. Dr. Chapin cannot show that these two additional cases did not come directly from his "quarantine," where but one case would have occurred had he not interfered.

A writer in the *Atlantic Medical Weekly*, Dr. G. G. Marshall, under the date 28 May, '98, writing on the treat-

ment of spasmodic croup, says "the importance of an early diagnosis cannot be overestimated, for a mistake may mean either the *unnecessary inconvenience and hardship* to the family of being quarantined, or the *criminal exposure* of other children." Exactly,—but what was the quarantining of Wackerling's two well children if it was not "the criminal exposure of other children" to this terrible disease. This Wackerling case can be cited as one showing "the importance of an early diagnosis" which Dr. Marshall says is so necessary. It was six days from the commencement of the first case before "quarantine" was ordered; all this time the children and their parents were coming and going at school, or elsewhere.

The most recent and most learned medical treatise upon scarlet fever, is that written by S. C. Busey, M. D., LL D. of Washington, D. C. It appears in Keating's *Cyclopaedia of the Diseases of Children*, v. 4. On page 556, Dr. Busey states that scarlet fever is due to a specific poison, capable of reproducing itself." On page 558, Dr. Busey states "that the accepted belief is that the poison can be destroyed only by heat, and that a temperature nearly up to 212 degrees Fahrenheit is necessary." Notwithstanding the stupidity of these sentences BOOK NOTES persists in citing

Dr. Busey against the action of our Providence Health Officers. Can a poison or anything else reproduce itself—and yet medical treatises are filled with just such nonsense. Dr. Busey says (page 558) "The contagion is so volatile and intense that the briefest contact with a scarletinus patient, or exposure of the sick room may be sufficient for infection." BOOK NOTES asks Dr. Chapin, will not quarantining the family produce precisely the contact necessary for infection—which isolation of the patient would prevent, or tend to prevent? Dr. Busey continues, "Some maintain that the spreading of the disease may be effectually arrested by isolation of the patient." (page 558). Again he continues, "The prevalence of epidemics of scarlet fever is mainly dependent upon personal intercourse." (page 560.) BOOK NOTES asks Dr. Chapin, will not quarantining the family produce that precise personal intercourse" which Dr. Busey holds as absolutely necessary, and would not isolation of the patient have a tendency to prevent such a danger? Then Dr. Busey continues "Immediate *isolation of the sick* should be imperative, and non-intercourse should be established." But does not a quarantine of an entire family force those who are well into that personal contact with the sick, which contact is so fatal, produce such a result? Most certainly it cannot fail in producing it. Dr. Busey holds that "there is no effectual method of protecting the susceptible from the contagion of scarlet fever. Much can be accomplished in limiting the prevalence of the disease by prompt and efficient *isolation of the sick* and by *non-intercourse*." (page 560) On the time of incubation Dr. Busey sustains Professor Atkinson. "Incubation varies from two to eight days." (page 562) Had not Wackerling's well children been quarantined, that is, confined with the sick, it is not at all prob-

able that either would have taken the disease. Certainly the third case did not arise from the first case.

Prof. I. E. Atkinson occupies the chair of Pathology in the University of Maryland. He is the writer upon scarlet fever in *The Reference Handbook of Medical Science*, (vol 6 p. 302) The word "pathology" means a knowledge of diseases. The writer speaking upon the question of "incubation" a word which means the time which elapses between the exposure to contagion and the breaking out of the disease, says, "there is a growing belief that the incubation of Scarlet Fever lasts less than six days, and without attempting to be more accurate we accept that as the common duration; it is very often less than this, but very seldom more." Upon the question of "prophylactic" treatment which means the application of preventive remedies or measures, this learned writer says "all unprotected persons should be rigidly excluded from the part of the house in which the patient is confined. Those entering the sick room should have no communication with the healthy" [p. 323] "not a few writers consider that protracted isolation of the patient is unnecessary."

Isolate the sick person if necessary to protect the community, but stop "quarantining" families. Dr. Chapin does not possess the right, nor the legal power, to imprison me, a well man, with a dangerously contagious disease. It may mean my death sentence. Nor can any law, by any legislative body, confer upon him such an outrageous power. No law whatever can save him from legal liability in damages; the Norberg case settled nothing; had it been properly brought Dr. Swarts would have had no occasion for laughter.

No fiction can equal the stern reality of life itself; take for instance the expe-

rience of Mary Wollstonecraft, one of the most talented of Englishwomen; she did not believe in the modern system of marriage; and put her belief into practice by living as a wife with an American renegade named Imlay, who deserted her and the child which she had brought to him. A more familiar illustration is that of George Eliot. The first, Mary Wollstonecraft married in regular form, after Imlay's abandonment, Godwin; the last, after the death of Lewes, married in regular form, Mr. Cross. Mr. Grant Allen, an English writer of talent, has set forth in a fiction "The Woman Who Did," a sufficiently horrible narrative, concerning a woman of the highest intellectual and moral type, who believed and acted upon her belief, just as Mary Wollstonecraft acted. Just now we have another story drawn from the same idea, "She Who Will Not When She May," written by Eleanor G. Walton. The Heroine of the story, Miss Katherine Pemberton, was an artist and a sculptor. She had a friend in John Harding, an art critic, and a journalist. John was profoundly in love with Katherine, and he besought her with a certain degree of earnestness to become his wife. But Katherine thought that she believed in loving quietly, and living with a man outside the form of marriage, which she held was mere sensuality. John didn't quite see things in that light, and so when he married an English woman and wrote to Katherine about it, her heart just burst asunder. She really did not know what she thought she knew. The story is cleverly written in the form of letters, from one to the other; fac-similes of telegrams, and newspaper extracts, that is imitations of such things, with half a dozen beautiful illustrations. The book is published by Henry Altemus, Philadelphia, in very beautiful form, and sells for \$1.

In a recent BOOK NOTES, in the article on the terrible case of Ellen Cosgrove, Deputy Sheriff Ham was laid under unjust suspicion. This was the paragraph:

"While investigating this case the writer applied at the office of the State Treasurer where such balances go to learn if this Ellen Cosgrove balance was there; and we were told that it had never been returned. A few weeks later when it came to be known that the writer was studying this case, the money was placed in the Treasurer's office, and information thereof came to me. Mr. Ham's expenses, if the sum returned to the Cosgrove estate was correct (\$76.) were \$42.54. But no return was shown to me. \$75 was taken from a desk, loose, and \$1 from the Clerk's (Clark's) pocket. It is impossible to understand how such a charge could fairly be made, and unless I have been misinformed by the proper officers, Ellen Cosgrove's money was held five years by the officer."

Dep. Sheriff Ham gave Nachtrieb a deed on 30th March 1893 and was paid \$265. The judgment was for \$146.46. He now shows me an entry Aug. 14, (no year) but in a book showing that the year must have been 1893, in which he records an entry of the payment of \$76. to the General Treasurer; and he has shown me the original execution on which is written "General Treasurer's Office, Providence, R. I., Rec'd of Franklin B. Ham, Dep. Sheriff, Seventy Six dollars, being the surplus of a sale under the within execution for(sic) Ellen Cosgrove.—Samuel Clark, Gen. Treasurer." There is no date, but this paper was returned to the Court of Common Pleas, and filed 23d of Sept. 1893. Mr. Ham held this money from 30th of March to August 14, supposing that Ellen Cosgrove or someone in her

behalf would come to him for it, but no one ever inquired into it until myself this present year. Mr. Ham is relieved from a suspicion (which I personally believed) of having held this money five years, nevertheless somebody held it, but I do not know whom it was. The case stands otherwise as represented. BOOK NOTES would wilfully wrong no man.

We have entered apparently upon an era of fiction dealing with the acts, or the persecutions of the Early Christians. The great success, as a venture of book publication, of Wallace's *Ben Hur*; followed by the greater success of *Quo Vadis*, whether they were the cause or the effect, at all events proves the truth of the first proposition. Just now comes another book entitled "*The Day Breaketh*," written by Fannie Alricks Shugert, and published by Henry Altetmus, of Philadelphia. The purpose of the writer in writing a tale of Jerusalem, and of Rome, in the days of Christ, was to exhibit the fearless devotion of these early Christians in such a form as to interest young readers of this generation; and set forth a picture of the enduring zeal shown by the apostles in performing the commands of the Master; it covers the transition from Paganism to Christianity, or at least a portion of it. It opens at Antioch, A.D. 37, the very year in which Nero was born; the Nero of *Quo Vadis*, and ends with A. D. 75; it begins with the stoning of Stephen, and ends with the death of John, the last of the disciples. The reader travels with Paul to Rome, or to Ephesus, but the chief actors dwell at Antioch, where the name "Christians" was first given to the followers of Jesus Christ. The story displays the careful study of the writer in sacred and profane history; and there appears in every chapter, that close study and profound thought, which is required to give vi-

talities to the domestic life of an epoch so long since as the opening of the Christian era. The book is beautifully published, and sells for \$1.25.

Dr. Swarts scores another defeat for the Board of Health, the Appellate Court having sustained the contention of the Christian Scientist—just as it ought to have done. If Dr. Swarts will only bring suits enough the Appellate Court will preserve the rights of the people. The Court holds that "the object of the Statute was to secure those who desire remedies, competent physicians to prepare and administer them." Then why exclude the people from the service of Dr. Pirlot, who studied under Ricord two and a half years in Paris. The Court holds that "the statute in conferring upon the State Board of Health authority to pass upon the qualifications of applicants for such certificates (to practice) does not confer upon said Board arbitrary power."

There dwells in Olneyville (now Providence) a young man of American birth, but of Scottish descent, named Frank White; he worked in one of the mills; the war with Spain was on, and the young man enlisted in the First Rhode Island Regiment, and went with the men to Quonset. On the 22nd of June the division in which Frank was, broke camp and went south on their way to the seat of battle. Frank left at home a brother, Philip, and a sister, Helen. Both worked in the National Worsted Mill (No. 6), whereof Boss Twister, Samuel Tillotson, was overseer of the spacial room. The brother and sister, wishing to go to Quonset on this 22nd of June, to take what they thought might be a final leave of their brother, asked leave of absence of Tillotson. He refused to give it. But Helen said, "I shall go to

see my brother if I never come back." She went, and upon her return found the room over which Boss Twister Samuel Tillotson presided closed and not to be reopened to them. It is just this kind of petty tyranny exercised by "enlarged" laborers, 'et one above another, which breeds such a kindly spirit toward employers by laborers.

What has the State Board of Health ever done for the cleansing of the Pawtuxet? Nothing; absolutely nothing. The position of Secretary, so long held by Dr. Fisher, was purely political, held at the will of the Warwick mill owners, who daily threw the human excrement from 20,000 laborers into this water, the Board of Health never protesting. The secretary of this do nothing board of "health," now is chairman of a committee of filtration. A "committee" arranged, apparently, for the giving to a private corporation of the contract of filtering our drinking water. The whole scheme is an abominable outrage. The city should own the plant, and not go on paying for ever, and ever, these men. Why use alum when our own sand will do the work just as effectively, and save us from paying an everlasting "corpora-

tion' for every drink. The only fault with the natural sand filter, according to this committee (Journal, 16th inst.) is that the supply "grows less on account of the clogging of the beds." Has not the State Board of Health kept this "stuff" *which so clogs the filter beds* constantly flowing down our throats these twenty years? Of course it has. Now, as a Board, it is working in the interest of alum.

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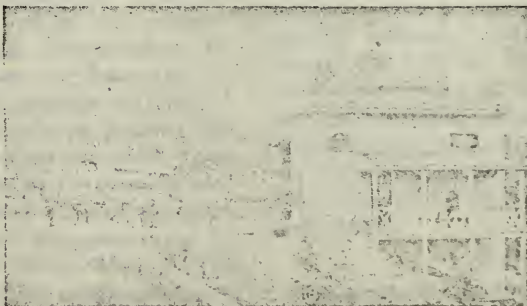
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SATURDAY, Aug. 6, 1898

VOL. 15.
No. 16.

The Public Weal is Alone My Purpose.

If any medical man has a right to utter an opinion upon the utility of Boards of Health, it is Dr. Meigs of Philadelphia. In a recent paper, extracts from which, are printed in the *Atlantic Medical Weekly*, of this city, are these views: "there are several reasons why houses should not be placarded and various ways in which placarding is productive of harm." These ways and reasons Dr. Meigs then points out, thus "the placarding of houses for contagious diseases involves trampling under foot the rights of individuals, and a violent intrusion on family privacy." And then pointedly asks "How much immunity from disease have we obtained in return?" Then speaking for Philadelphia, Dr. Meigs says "we are less free from typhoid fever and diphtheria in Philadelphia than the people in London are, where placards are not allowed." These views are endorsed by the *Atlantic Medical Weekly* as being "eminently proper," and they are strongly urged by the *New England Medical Monthly*. This organ of the medical profession says, "an enterprising Board of Health which happens to possess little knowledge

and less tact is capable of inflicting a great amount of damage not only upon an attending physician but upon the community as well." * * The pernicious activity of health boards has already worked much injury to the medical profession."

Then continues Dr. Meigs "Our health authorities should direct their efforts to cleanliness and to measures to improve the general hygiene of the city, instead of advertising by the posting of placards the existence of disease after it has come." These placards are a far more certain indictment of the boards of health for inefficiency, than they are of protection to the public health. It is a pleasing thing for the writer to find himself sustained by such high authorities in these views which he has so often promulgated. It may not be pleasant reading for health boards, but it is true nevertheless that all the placarding, all the isolation, all the quarantining done by them in Rhode Island has resulted in *increasing the death rate*; in the name of decency why continue a system which produces such results.

The action of Dr. Swarts representing the Board of Health towards Dr. Pirlot is neither more nor less than

downright oppression. Dr. Swarts caused to be brought against Dr. Pirlot, a faulse action; twice this action has been tried, and twice defeated; the last time hopelessly overthrown; it never had any sound foundation; nevertheless, there is a pretended attempt to go a third time to a jury. This action has put the state to an enormous cost, and nearly financially ruined Dr. Pirlot. Dr. Swarts, in using the State funds instead of his own, escapes personal loss, but gets heaps of advertising, and the State loses a "pile" of Money. What good has Dr. Swarts accomplished? None whatever. There can be but one opinion among right minded men who understand the case. And it is, that the action of Dr. Swarts is a positive danger to all good government. BOOK NOTES does not sneak about and whisper this, but it utters it squarely at Dr. Swarts, whose public acts deserve an examination by the Appellate Court, and unless the writer dies, or Dr. Pirlot dies, they shall surely have such an examination, and a vindication if they are entitled to it.

Why does not Dr. Swarts, representing the State Board, seize upon Dr. Munyon, who is supposed to have means, instead of bringing a false charge against a poor man like Dr. Pirlot, and vindictively following him.

It is the apparent purpose of Dr. Swarts (and the Board of Health, in case there is any such body outside of Dr. Swarts) to hold, over Dr. Pirlot an indictment, twice beaten, not founded upon the true evidence in the case, assigning as a reason for not granting Pirlot a certificate to practice, that the case is still before the courts. The case is still before the Court, but it will not be Pirlot who will be the defendant.

There is another aspect to this case which is of the profoundest interest to the public, and it shall be no fault of BOOK NOTES if this same public does not become fully educated in regard to it; and that is, the condition of one o

the witnesses *used by the Board of Health* against Pirlot. If such a thing as the Board of Health is stated to have done is true, and can be done with impunity, by a Board of Health, it is time that men knew it, and men shall know it; "They that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same."

It has twice been intimated that BOOK NOTES is being paid for its interest in the Pirlot case. The writer only regrets that it is not being paid, nor has it any hopes that it will be; but unlike the Secretary of the State Board, it is not squandering the money of the State.

BOOK NOTES, June 11, 1898.—

"It is not a question of discretion with the State Board whether it will issue a certificate; the law is mandatory; it *shall* issue to any respectable man who holds a diploma from a "reputable and legally chartered medical college."

Opinion of the Appellate Court, July 18, 1898:—

The Court holds that "the statute in conferring upon the State Board of Health authority to pass upon the qualifications of applicants for such certificates (to practice does not confer upon said Board arbitrary power."

One to whom a complimentary copy of BOOK NOTES has for long been sent writes thus to me: "Through your kindness and appreciation I still receive BOOK NOTES. I enjoy them very much, and never fail to get some scrap of information, or expression of manliness that greatly edifies me. I regard you as among the small saving remnant that assures a true man that the world is not quite ready to surrender to the utterly sordid, merely politic, or time serving." Then my friend wishes "me all success in your (my) righteous stirrings up of the caged animals of hypocrisy and untruth,"—and then he writes this terrible postscript: "Should you publish any part of the compliments I send you please do not mention my name or place of business." My friend is unwilling to undergo the slight affliction of having it known that he secretly commends me.

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"It thus happens that while the urban population upon the watersheds of our rivers has greatly increased, the pollution of the river has increased even more rapidly: and the end is not yet, for many cities are still dependent more or less upon privy vaults." * * * For nearly thirty years, in fact ever since the first mill was built on the banks of the Pawtuxet, the mill owners have been gathering the human excrement from many thousand people and daily dumping it into the water which the people of Providence are forced to drink. What, then, must be the condition of the bed of this stream? Well may Engineer Hazen say, for these are his sentences: "So that we may expect that for some time yet the pollution of rivers will increase—faster than the increase in urban population." * * "River waters have probably been, ever since the time when they were first used, more or less unhealthy, but for a long period this was not clearly recognized." Then Mr. Hazen recognizes the fact that "cities must continue to use river waters," and that some method of purification must be used, for which the purification suggestions have been numerous, but "*successes very few.*" "Filtration is the only process successfully employed, and among the types of filters used the *type known as the sand filter* has been so much more widely and successfully used than any of the others as to give it a unique position." This writer, Allen Hazen, is Chief Engineer of the Albany Water Filtration plant, and before was for years engaged in conducting experiments at Lawrence, Mass., and these extracts were taken from the *Engineering Magazine* for May, 1898. The positive necessity for filtering the Pawtuxet water every man knows. Why dally with alum. It is neither more nor less

than a useless expense—but worse than that is the long-continued and constant use of a chemical which prepares our stomachs for the absorption of disease. *Sand is cheaper, much more effective—and never will produce disease.* Then why delay.

The *Scientific American*, 30th July, writing upon the vital question of the purification of water, says: "It is now well recognized that the most efficient method of rendering innocuous ordinary domestic sewage (and that is precisely what the Pawtuxet water now is), is to rely, *not on chemical treatment*, but on the natural purification effected by putrefactive and nitrifying bacteria, which in the end entirely destroy the offensive organic matter." Sand is earth, and the earth is the greatest deodorizer and the most effective agent for the destruction of putrefaction known to man. Then why use alum, which is merely a precipitant. Sand, properly used, not only can absolutely purify water, but it cannot fail to do it. Then why throw in alum, making an additional salt.

There is not the slightest pretence that the "Alum" Method of Filtration is any more effective than the natural method; but by using it our representatives in the City Council can make us pay a corporation, never ending, a certain sum of money for every drink drunk by every citizen of Providence for ever, and ever.

Certain men, respected in this community, using those arts now well understood, prevailed upon the members of the General Assembly to enact the Fire Insurance Statute, as unprincipled a specimen of Corporation legislation as ever existed. The "paster" act is a legal fraud. Take it before the Appellate Court, and expose the men who procured the enactment of it.

The "Trading Stamp" scheme consists of an attempt to skin a five per cent. margin out of the entire sales of every poor shopkeeper by a company of men doing no legitimate business. The poor shopkeeper is obliged to pay cash for the stamps, a large part of which stamps the sellers are never asked to redeem; and when these sellers do redeem them, it is at an enormous profit. Thus, I investigated a bit. A very cheap copy of Shakespeare's works, costing about \$1.85 was offered to me for a collection of stamps which (by the way) I had not, but which would have cost some poor shopkeeper \$5.00. Thus these "skimmers" were getting five clean dollars of the shopkeeper's money for a cost to the "skimmers" of \$1.85. Such is the trading stamp scheme. It is a "skin" game, prohibited in Massachusetts by a statute, just as it should be here. Let the shopkeepers unite and get the Massachusetts statute enacted here at the next General Assembly; but here in Rhode Island we foster such schemes. One has just been chartered to skin money out of poor shopkeepers.

Things have come to a pretty pass. Here at Brown University a President cannot hold a private opinion of a question of economics which differs from the opinion of Mr. J. H. Walker, save at the peril of his position. In Cambridge, at Harvard, a professor must formulate his views to suit "Senator" Hoar or get cut. What is the difference between this kind of a Walker, and this Hoar.

Among the brightest of the newly invented, monthly, illustrated, folio, periodicals, one entitled *Success* is published in New York City. The subject matter is not too heavy, nor too light; it is healthy and at the same time popular, and costs only a dollar a year.

The American *Economist*, the organ of the "Protective" Tariff League, has this in a recent issue:

A FASCINATING FREE-TRADE DOCTRINE.

Among the captivating doctrines of Free-Trade is the bewitching idea that one of the most potent remedies for business paralysis is to glut our markets with foreign goods.

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A FASCINATING "PROTECTIVE" TARIFF DOCTRINE.

Among the captivating doctrines of "Protection" is the bewitching idea that one of the most potent remedies for business paralysis is to glut our markets with domestic goods. The hair of the dog cures the bite. Wall out all but American buyers of our goods.

The revival, or perhaps the new birth of the *Saturday Evening Post*, at Philadelphia, is one of the happiest of recent literary happenings. It is published weekly. The Editor must have written this paragraph from the latest issue (30 July) for my especial benefit "It oftentimes requires heroic courage to face (what men regard as) failure—to take up the broken strands of fruitless effort, to look bravely toward the future, and proceed, undaunted on one way"—so help me God—that is the truth—but this Editor then comes with consolation—"but what may seem to us, absolute failure, is often the key to a greater successes". To read, and to feel the force of those two sentences is worth a years subscription to this admirable paper.

The *New England Magazine* for August, taken as a work of art, is beautiful; and literature comes with cultured pens to give it backing.

The Editor of the *Journal*, 21st July, says, "In Cuba in the past the laws have been corruptly employed for the personal benefit of the ruling class." Now would this same *Journal* inform us for what silver was demonetized if it was not for the "ruling class;" for what "protection," tariffs were made for if not for the "ruling class;" why laws were made in order to enable the President of the *Journal* itself, to sell sewing machines, which are made here in Providence, to a Providence woman for \$75 00, while selling the same machines all over Europe for \$25.00, if it was not for the "ruling class."

The admirable address delivered before the Alumni Association of Brown University by Mr. Justice Rogers of the Supreme Court is just ready in a fine pamphlet; it is upon the "influence of College Inspiration on after Life." The impress of honest earnestness is stamped upon every page, just as it is upon the daily life of this upright judge.

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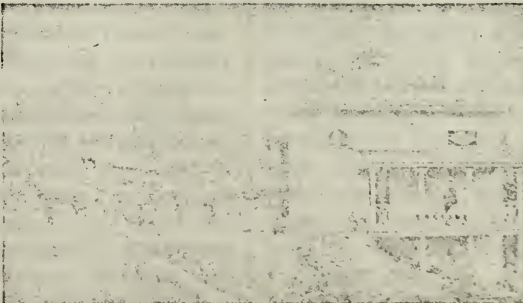
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No. 17.

The Rank Violation of the Statutes of Rhode Island by the Board of Health.

It is quite evident that the gentlemen of the State Board of Health do not understand the legal situation in which they stand in the matter of "Quarantining" families or houses. The Quarantine law is chapter 95 of the General Laws of 1892. It would be well for these gentlemen to read this law, and BOOK NOTES will lay it before them. The statutes makes Town Councils or Boards of Aldermen, Boards of Health, and they may make such rules and regulations, *not repugnant to law*, as they shall judge proper (*General Laws, R. I., 1892, page 167.*) In this statute Town Councils, or Boards of Aldermen, have power given them to make quarantine regulations only so far as vessels are concerned; that is, in what part of the harbor, or bay, or river the vessels shall lie at anchor, and other rules concerning them, and their crews; but upon the land the statute does not give them this power; it is given to the Governor, and to him alone, and cannot be delegated. Thus stands the statute: "Whenever the Governor shall deem it advisable or the preservation of the public

health and the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases, *he may by proclamation place under quarantine the whole State, or such portion thereof as he may deem necessary.*" Thus the quarantining of a home, or any locality upon land is given only to the Governor; and he must issue a proclamation of the fact. Having done this, the Governor is authorized to give to the State Board of Health (but to no Town Council or Board of Aldermen) "power to enforce such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary to prevent introduction, and to restrict the spread of diseases." But Quarantine power having in this very section of the Statute been placed in the hands of the Governor, to be used only by proclamation; it is not thereafter given to anybody else. The State Board has no power under the law to expend a dollar of the State money, save only under the approval of the Governor (Sec. 15.) The State Board of Health *can only act*, under this law, "during the period when any such proclamation shall be in force."— Sec. 16.) (*Gen. Statutes R. I., 1892, p. 319.*)

Consider for a moment the legal duties or powers of the State Board of Health. The establishment of it forms the subject of Chapter 96 of the *General*

Laws. It shall take cognizance of the interests of life and health." * * "It shall make investigations into the causes of disease." * * "It shall do all in its power to ascertain the causes and the best means of prevention of diseases of every kind (syphilis not excepted) in this State," * * and it shall publish and circulate such information," * * and "it shall investigate and give advice in relation to such subjects" as the General Assembly or the Governor may ask. * * "It shall investigate diseases among cattle." * * "The Secretary shall make inquiry of town clerks or local boards, and he may ask practicing physicians 'in relation to prevalence of diseases.'" The Governor is authorized to provide an office where this important work can be done. Under such very general, but most significant powers can this Board place the entire State of Rhode Island or any part thereof under Quarantine? Most certainly it cannot. Only the Governor of Rhode Island can do it, and then only by a proclamation. But the conditions for such a proclamation must be extraordinary. The "public health" must be in danger. A hypothetical case of diphtheria in Norberg's family cannot be held to endanger the public health to such an extent as to justify the Governor in issuing a proclamation of quarantine; no more would it justify the State Board—but in spite of the action of Dr. Swarts, he had no jurisdiction in the case—Norberg ought to have called the police.

Section 16 of this Quarantine law, is a fine specimen of legislation. It is original in this Digest of 1892, and it is now exactly as the very learned Commission which made this revision prepared it, but it bears the unmistakable finger marks of the late Secretary of the State Board, Dr. C. H. Fisher. The Section begins thus: "Nothing in Section 13, 14, 15 (in which land quarantine

is provided for) shall be construed to impair the validity of the provisions of the first twelve sections" (in which sea quarantine is provided for); *Provided*, that said State Board during the period when any such proclamation (by the Governor) shall be in force shall have power at any time to suspend any of the rules in this first section mentioned, (this blind statement must mean section 13 of the law) and referred to, and to make and establish rules in substitution therefor and in addition thereto respecting quarantine in any town." (Gen. Laws of R. I., 1892, pp 319:320.

When a statute provides a certain definite way in which a thing shall be done there is no other legal way in which to do it. Can the State Board, which has to have a specific law in order to rescind one of its own rules, supercede the Statute itself, and take into its own hands the power to quarantine a house? Or can the State Board of Education supercede the Governor in the issuance of Proclamations of thanks giving.

This extraordinary statute provides the State Board with power to rescind one of its own rules, and make another; evidently Dr. Fisher forgot to put into the law a provision that this change might be written on a piece of paper—such legislation is positively farcical. But this is clear. The Governor alone can place a house, or land, in Rhode Island in quarantine (Sec. 13.) The State Board can make no rule nor regulation in this quarantine, until first authorized to do so by the Governor. (Sec. 13.) And any rule made by the Board exists no longer than the time in which the Governor's Proclamation is in force, (Sec. 16.) and no Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff, Town Sergeant, Constable or other officer has any warrant in law to execute a State Board rule save only during the time that the Governor's

Proclamation is in force (Sec. 16) Neither Dr. Swarts as Secretary, nor the State Board itself, has any legal power to quarantine any man's house or family in Rhode Island, nor has Dr. Chapin—such an act is an offence under the common law and a violation of the constitutional rights of a Rhode Island citizen as set forth in Section 3 of the Constitution, thus: "No man shall be enforced, molested or burdened in his body or goods." Having shown that no power is given to these Health Boards to issue an order of Quarantine under the Quarantine law, BOOK NOTES will examine the provisions of Chapter 94 of the General Laws of 1892, in order to discover whether this power is given in that statute.

Chapter 94 of the General Laws of 1892 consists of regulations for the prevention of disease. Let us examine its provisions. The first twelve sections relate to quarantine of vessels, and should have formed part of the succeeding chapter, which is upon that subject. Those parts of this statute which relate to individuals, their rights and their dwellings, begin with Sec. 13: "Every person occupying a house or a tenement shall, under a penalty of twenty dollars, inform the Town Council of any person 'sick of small pox or any other contagious or infectious distemper, or suspected to be so.' Syphilis is an infectious disease, shall I inform the Town Council of all those whom I suspect to be afflicted with syphilis; or in a case of measles, which the most recent authority, Keating's *Diseases of Children*, Vol. 1, page 675, pronounces 'a highly contagious disease;' am I to be fined under a complaint of Dr. Swarts of the State Board because I do not rush to the Town Council and tell it that my child has what Dr. Waxham declares to be 'an acute, contagious epidemic disease,' to wit, measles. It is positive absurdity. It began in the

Digest of 1844, the period of the dark ages in medicine; was elaborated in the Digest of 1857, by Dr. Snow, and under Dr. Fisher, Secretary of the State Board, assumed the absurdities which it now possesses. Section 15 provides that a proper guard shall be set, but the law does not say where this guard shall be set, but doubtless so set as to prevent the disease from getting out of the house; then the Town Council shall remove said sick person to such place in the town as will be most proper to prevent the spreading of the infection." The Council "shall also confine all persons suspected of having the distemper until they are recovered." A perfectly well person cannot be suspected of having a disease, hence a well person cannot be confined "until they are recovered." Such law is positively ridiculous. Section 16 provides that *only the infected person can be confined in any house* or, as they generally now call it "quarantined." Of what use is this provision, does not a sick person become most effectually "quarantined" by the disease which he has? Sec. 17 gives to the Town Council power to remove any inhabitants of said town visited with the smallpox or other contagious or infectious disease to the hospital." *Only the sick* come under the control of the Town Council. This guard, authorized to be placed around a dwelling house, has no power whatever conferred by this statute, because Section 15 declares that the Health Board "*shall remove said person;*" then how can the Town Council, or the State Board under the law, leave a case of measles or syphilis in a private dwelling, unless the dwelling is turned into a hospital.

Section 19 is a repetition of Sec. 13, with this variation in the latter, a householder shall immediately notify the Health Authorities of a case of "small pox or any other contagious or infectious distemper, or suspected to be so;"

the former restricts this necessity of information, to a case of small pox. Section 18 provides punishment for any person "who shall go into the house where persons so suspected to have the small pox are confined. A well person cannot be suspected, and Section 15 orders that a sick person *shall be removed*; hence, in case the town or the Health Board has done its duty, how am I to visit the sick save by a journey to a hospital. This section provides only for Small Pox, but for no other contagious or infectious disease whatever. Diphtheria was unknown to the medical profession, in 1857, when the statute was first put into its present form. The whole tenor of the law is clear. No officer was to be permitted, under any conditions to confine well men in a dwelling in which was a person sick with small pox, or other contagious or infectious disease—the sole purpose of this statute is to keep well people from exposure; but when Wackerling's well children were "quarantined" with the sick did Dr. Chapin execute this law? Most certainly he did not; he shut up with this contagious disease two well children, whom he kept there until they all became sick; isolation of the person affected was all that Dr. Chapin could do, and Dr. Swarts has not the slightest jurisdiction in the city of Providence, nor in any other town or city in Rhode Island. There was not the slightest authority for his absurd action in the Norberg case; nor was there for Dr. Chapin in the Wackerling case. Both men were legally liable under both chapters 94 and 95 of the General Laws. One would suppose it was a sufficient affliction for a poor man to have one case of scarlet fever, why add to his affliction by housing all his well children *with the infected* until all have it; and the poor man is reduced to a condition of penury—all too by the illegal,

unwarranted, senseless action of the Health Board. While this extraordinary synopsis is precisely accurate so far as it goes, it has not nearly exhausted the absurdities in these preposterous statutes. They are a disgrace to all men concerned in their preparation and enactment.

Over and above all these rules or regulations comes the sacred private rights of men which must be respected. Neither Dr. Swarts nor Dr. Chapin have any more legal right to place my family "in quarantine" or mark my house as a pest house, than they have to place the State of Rhode Island in quarantine, and neither can cite any law in defence; both are liable in damages, but not in an action for slander, as was done in the Norberg case.

The *Journal*, 10th Aug. 1898, has this: "BUSINESS VERY DULL. Wealth of Central Americans Reduced by DEPRECIATION OF SILVER. Gold is very scarce in CENTRAL AMERICA, and the depreciation of the value of silver has greatly reduced the wealth of the population." Would the *Journal* kindly inform its readers whether like causes produce like results in North as well as in South America. Then continues the *Journal*, labor is paid for in silver, but wages remain the same as when silver was at a parity with gold." Now look at this stupid nonsense, or something worse: "Capital is being driven from rich fields which might easily thrive were the capitalists afforded protection." In my untutored simplicity it had never occurred to me that the man who employed me and paid me in dollar pieces which he could get for 45 cents, and pay over to me for 100 cents, was the fellow who needed protection. I had supposed that it was the laborer; but I forgot—it was to fiddle upon this string that the *Journal* was originated

The Springfield *Republican* of Aug. 12 has this concerning Porto Rico: "To lift the present body of money there to the gold equivalent would require the establishment of a special gold reserve for the purpose, and would furthermore cause a marked *fall in prices* and a *large increase* in the *burden of existing contracts* on the island; for, of course, if the peso or five-peseta silver piece were made redeemable in gold or the equivalent of a gold dollar, its purchasing power must be nearly doubled, and the burden upon the debtor would consequently be nearly doubled also. We should then confer the blessings of liberty along with the curses of grave commercial disturbances and financial injustice."

Would the *Republican* please show us that just this wrong was not perpetrated upon debtors in these United States when silver was declared to be no longer money in 1873

The Japanese Government has a gold reserve of 62,000,000 yen; to this it has added silver to the amount of 6,000,000 yen, and issued currency against it which the monometalist papers (in this

case I think the Boston *Transcript*) say will increase prices of farm products, and work an evil.

The most virulent bimetalist of the future will be the monometalist of today; the scheme is, to shrink the value of my property, but maintain the uttermost amount of my debt—and thus take my property, under the tremendous shrinkage which the demonetization of silver, as money, accomplished; then having all the property of the poor, the monometalist will "inflate" his (my) property by restoring silver and give me a chance to again buy and again be robbed.

BOOK NOTES calls attention to the clearness of the reports of legal or judicial actions which the Providence *News* publishes. These reports published by the *Journal* are in no way comparable. Take as an instance the report of the decision of the Appellate Court in the case of Kimball who desired to take the poor debtor's oath. No possible idea of the nature of the case can be had from the *Journal's* report; while from the report by the *News* a clear understanding is presented. BOOK NOTES could cite numbers of just such instances from these two papers.

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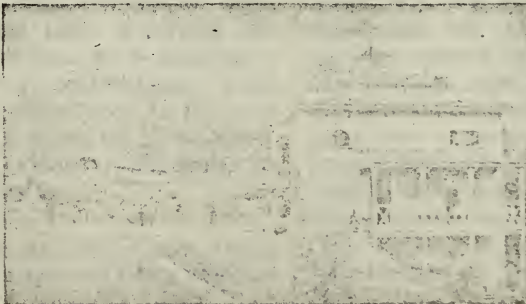
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SATURDAY, Sept. 3, 1898

VOL. 15.
No. 18.

There came the other day to the writer, a beautiful book. It was the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam. It was one of a limited edition, printed by Mr. Elbert Hubbard of the Roycroft. It is printed in black letter, with initial letters illuminated in gold and colors, by hand. It has a title page, but it has also a colophon. This colophon thus reads: "So here endeth the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam of Naishapur, as rendered into English by Edward Fitzgerald; done into a book by me, Elbert Hubbard, at the Roycroft shop, that is in East Aurora, New York, completed June the tenth, MDCCCXVIII." It is a book unique in execution, exquisite in style, severe in taste, antique—a dress most befitting the beauty of the subject matter of the poem.

Saving the presumption, it may not be improper in BOOK NOTES to write something about Omar Khayyam and his Rubaiyat. Omar, is the name of a Persian who dwelt at Naishapur, some eight hundred years ago, A. D. 1100. He was a tent-maker, the word Khayyam means a tent-maker, and hence he spoke of himself as

"Khayyam who stitched the tents of science."

Omar became an astronomer, most learned of his time; and also a poet; as

a poet, Omar wrote an innumerable number of verses or sonnets as we sometimes call them; in Persian they are called "*Rubaiyat*." It is now fashionable to call these verses "quatrains" which simply means four line verses; but the word in this connection, has no reference to the method of the rhyming, but concerning this rhyming further on. The first that was known to English scholars of these *Rubaiyat* came through a translation into Latin, by the Rev. Thomas Hyde, D. D. circa 1680. Mr. Dole eulogizes Hyde's great learning, "he knew not only Persian and Hebrew but also Turkish, Arabic and even Chinese and Malay." But Mr. Hallam says, "Hyde was ignorant of the ancient language of Persia." It was nearly two centuries (in 1840) before anything was heard in English of Omar, or of his Rubaiyat. About 1840, Sir Gore Ouseley made a translation, but this also fell flat; in 1858 there came a change in the destinies of Omar and his Rubaiyat. In that year at all events Mr. Edward Fitzgerald first announced his translation of these Rubaiyat. Mr. Fitzgerald offered them for publication to Fraser's Magazine, the leading literary periodical in England at that time. The editor declined to publish them. The

next year, 1859 Mr. Fitzgerald printed a very small edition (250 copies) anonymously at his own expense. It fell dead from the moment of its birth. Mr. Quaritch says "I sold at one penny each, not being able to get more, nearly the whole edition, for Mr. Fitzgerald had made me a present of about 200 copies. In 1887, Mr. Quaritch sold one of these same copies for four guineas (£21.00), and in 1894 he sold a copy for six guineas (£31 50). In the United States until the publication of the Vedder illustrations in 1884, positively nothing whatever was known of Omar. R. W. Emerson in his essay on Persian poetry makes no mention of Omar. Since Fitzgerald's translation in 1858, Nicolas translated the Rubaiyat into French; Von Schack into Dutch; Bodenstedt into German, and McCarthy, Garner, and Whinfield (three writers) into English. There seems to be an uncertain quantity, so far as numbers are concerned, of these of Rubaiyat. Fitzgerald's first version has 75 stanzas; his second edition has 110 stanzas; his third edition has 101 stanzas. Nicolas, in the French has 464 stanzas. There is much variation in the connection of the stanzas in all the translations. No order whatever is maintained—the arrangement is in accordance with the whim of the person who does the arranging.

In Fitzgerald's, the first, second and fourth lines are in rhyme, the third is blank verse. This same method is followed by Garner, and by Whinfield, both English, but by no other writers. The meaning of Omar, by whomsoever rendered, is very obscure. By some it is considered mystical, by others epicurean. Mons Nicolas (Frenchman) regards it as mystical, but he says: "However clear the mystical meaning must be to Europeans they are not quoted without '*rougissant*,' even by laymen in Persia." Furthermore, this Frenchman

describes some of the images of Omar as "*d'une sensualité quelquefois revolante*." These offensive things do not appear in Mr. Fitzgerald's translation, which by one, is described "as a paraphrase," and by another long conversant with the Persian language as "a poem on Omar rather than a translation of Omar's writing. This freedom of "translation" has without doubt had much to do with bringing Omar's verses into line with our nineteenth century freedom of thought, in our revolt against cant or creed. Mrs. Cadell one of the brightest women who ever studied the Rubaiyat says: "He is the sole representative of his age (epoch) of Free Thought; although he is certainly not orthodox, he seems to be more of a doubter than a disbeliever; he questions, mocks and rebels." The lady continues: "He wrote little about love—wine is the favorite theme. He asks what is evil? What is sin? What makes this action wrong, and that right?—when there is not much to choose between them—then he says. We are helpless, Thou has made us what we are. We sin and suffer profoundly, but do not see any way out of it." Such seems to be a fair summary; and explains the present interest in the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam. This note is compiled chiefly from Mr. N. H. Dole's tiresome and exhaustive work upon the subject, and which was in turn largely compiled by Mr. Dole from the *Calcutta Review*. For an excellent summary of the meaning of the Rubaiyat see Mr. Dole's book, vol. 2, p. 424, which was made by Mr. H. C. Keene and published in the *Calcutta Review*.

I cannot close this note better than by quoting our Minister at the Court of St. James, John Hay, from an address prefixed to this beautiful work. "Of exquisite beauty, faultless form, and singular grace, these amazing stanzas are

not more wonderful than the breadth and depth of their profound philosophy, their knowledge of life, and their dauntless courage." "A song of incomparable beauty and power, in an environment no longer worthy of him, in a language of narrow range; for many generations the song was virtually lost; then by a miracle of Creation, a poet, a twin brother in spirit to the first, was born, who took up the forgotten poem and sang it anew with all its original melody and force, it seems idle to ask which was the greater master—each seems greater than his work."

A valued correspondent, Mr. Walter D. Harris, Postmaster at Olneyville, sends BOOK NOTES the following note desiring the meaning of the term summer-piece :

MR. S. S. RIDER—Dear Sir,

The term "Summer piece" is referred to in the Mowry Genealogy as a timber across the centre of a ceiling, furnishing support to the floor above; I cannot give the page. In the Fenner Genealogy, by Mr. Root, Pamphlet No. 2, page 26, occurs the following sentence: "The chimney with its ancient trammels, and pot-hooks, opens its generous space into the one great room, where Major Fenner as Justice held his Court, and where the immense girders about the ceiling, and the Summer, or central floor timbers above still spoke of ye olden time; this house was built in 1677.

Yours truly,

W. D. H.

The reference above mentioned to the Mowry Genealogy is as follows :

"The 'summer-piece' as it used to be called, which runs across the ceiling in the middle of each of the front rooms, is a stick of white oak about 12x14 inches."—*Mowry Gen.*, p. 41.

Mr. Thomas Wright, in his *Dictionary of Obsolete or Provincial English* gives this word *Summer* (1) A sumpter horse; (2) The chief beam of a floor; (3)

The part of a wagon which supports the body. This last meaning was used in *Sussex*, England. The word came so to be used from a corrupt pronunciation of the Anglo-Norman word *Sumpter*, which Mr. Wright says came into use in England after the Norman Conquest, some seven centuries ago, and which meant a horse which carries provisions, or other burdens; hence a beam which sustained a heavy weight, was first a "*sumpter*"-piece then a "*summer*" piece; and later still a *summer-tree*. But a "*summer*" was not always a timber; it was a large stone over a fire-place, supporting the weight above. Mr. Halliwell, in his *Archaic Dictionary*, gives the word *Summer* as used in *Hertfordshire*. In the reference to the Fenner room by Mr. Root the words "*trammels*" and "*pot-hooks*" were synonymous.

The *Journal* is getting to be really comical; on the 18th August the editor found that "it is impossible to say whether Spain will rise from the '*debacle*' stronger and better." Possibly if the editor knew what he meant by "*debacle*" in this connection he might satisfy himself concerning his conundrum. On the 23d of August he has an editorial concerning "the distress of the *hyphenated* Americans;" then it goes on to speak of "a scheme for beating the unhyphenated." Can he unhyphenate a hyphenated? On the 20th of August it has this: "Plucky rescue, Miss Mary Jane Bourne, daughter of Rev. Shearjas *Hub* Bourne" saves three men from drowning. It is too bad to mutilate a name like that. The great-grandfather of this "plucky" young lady (I think) was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island, and for six years one of the Judges of that Court, his name was Shearjashub Bourne. But why raise a Hub-Bub concerning these things.

The case of E. A. S. Whitford *versus* Mary A. Pinkerton, which is now in the Courts, and which has had some ventilation, but needs more, in the newspapers is, in its essential aspects, a parallel to the terrible case against Ellen Cosgrove, which was recently set forth in BOOK NOTES. Both women were legally, or illegally, robbed by a parcel of members of the Rhode Island Bar—all honorable men—the writer has long known every one of them—Ellen Cosgrove was sent to the Insane Wards at the State Farm, where she died; Mary Pinkerton will be sent to the State Prison, in an ambulance, where she will die—neither woman had committed a crime. Deputy Sheriff Ham, who performed the amenities of his office, to both these women, informed me that in the Mary Pinkerton case it is an instance of the Divine retribution—in that Mary was given her father's property where it should have been distributed among his heirs. In matters of legal ethics, or in the ministerial functions of his office, BOOK NOTES doffs its hat, in the presence of the officer, but when it comes to a question of how a man stands, with reference to other men, and both, with reference to the Divine Creator—we will not yield even to a Deputy Sheriff. The idea that Mr. J. Erastus Lester; or Mr. J. E. Goldsworthy; or Mr. Edwin D. Bassett, by whom this woman has been chiefly afflicted, were instruments used by our Creator in His infliction of Divine Vengeance, had not before occurred to me as an excuse for these legal outrages. If Mr. Ham's idea is the true explanation, the Pope of Rome, is not alone the Vicegerent of God on earth, but Lester, Goldsworthy and Bassett, must be Vicegerents for Rhode Island.

A special dispatch from Washington, 28th August, says that a new paper, *The Times of Cuba*, has been established by Thomas R. Dawley, at Santiago de

Cuba. Two columns of the paper are in English, the balance being in Spanish. Mr. Dawley is a native of West Greenwich, R. I. He will be remembered here in Providence by a sham law suit brought against him by one King. Dawley was thrown into jail, (being without friends or bonds,) where he was kept a week, when an Irish boy, employed in his office by Dawley, took the matter in hand, secured bonds, and released Dawley. Subsequently Dawley, in undertaking to plead his own case, against a "member of the Bar" who had in some way wronged him—as he Dawley believed—lost the suit and became a newspaper correspondent.

How it would delight the heart of Samuel Darling could he but know that the repeal of the law of compulsory vaccination in England had passed the Houses of Parliament. To make a law forcing me to inject into my body some purulent matter out of an abscess in your body, on the ground that the operation will prevent me from taking the small pox, seems to be sufficiently disgusting; and it is not rendered any more fascinating by passing this purulent matter through the body of a bull, or a cow, as is now being done—such a thing as actual bovine vaccine is now unknown.

A short, clear, entertaining and valuable lesson, "How to Tell To-morrow's Weather," for amateur weather observers is given in the September *Ladies' Home Journal* in the form of a series of pictures of clouds, with brief explanatory notes. The page is well worth examining and saving, for there is nothing in the article which would not be understood by anybody, even a child, and a little close study will make one qualified to form better opinions than ever before as to what the weather will be.

Some very interesting reminiscences and letters of Mary Todd Lincoln, the wife of President Lincoln, are given in an article in the September *McClure* by her sister, Emily Todd Helm. The Indian chief Two Moon's story of General Custer's last fight, as taken down by Mr. Hamlin Garland, has, besides its value as being the Indian's versions of a famous battle between him and the white man, that of a charming quaintness and ingenuousness, but nothing ever written will excel, in all the word-charming qualities, the stories of her beloved husband, which Mrs. Custer wrote, not for us, but out of her own heart.

The September *Woman's Home Companion* will teach you how to prepare a slice of Dry Toast properly, taking exactly twenty four hours in doing it; the inventor of the method is Ella Morris Kretschmer, a name doubtless derived from the Dutch *Kratsen*, to scratch, and *Mageve-Kost*, poor victuals. If the editor of the *Journal* is not so well "up" in cooking, he at least knows how to

eat. Here is how he eats corn: "Hold the cob firmly in both hands; rest the elbows on the table, regardless of the sneers of the ignorant,"—and eat like a hog.

The *Journal* of the 13th inst., in a two-column article concerning the death of Miss Flynn at Watch Hill, wherein one Schooley was implicated, says: "He, Schooley, met the dead girl walking." Would the *Journal* do us the favor to explain how a dead girl walks.

The cartoons reproduced in *Review of Reviews* from Spanish journals serve to indicate the density of popular ignorance in Spain as to the facts of the present war. For instance, one cartoon shows Cervera's fleet as successfully slipping past Sampson at Santiago; another represents Cervera as having Schley bottled up; while in a third Admiral Dewey figures as a rat caught in Spain's Philippine trap.

It seems unfortunate that Canada has never given birth to a man fit to be made a Governor General of the Province. Some English aristocratic nabob or other has to be sent over. Just now it is the Earl of Minto. Why not give a little attention to to stirpiculture and "breed" Earls in Canada.

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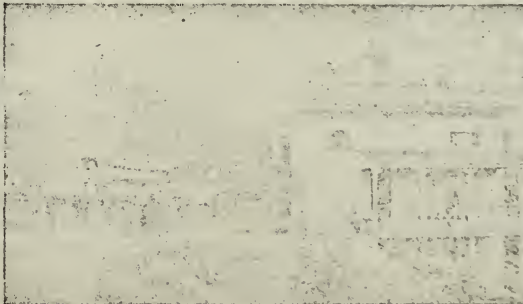
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SINCERITAS

In Memory of

ROWLAND HAZARD.

The death of Rowland Hazard, at Glens Springs, N. Y., on the 16th of August, gave a shock to the writer which he will not soon forget. It is fitting that BOOK NOTES takes notice of this departure, for Mr. Hazard was a bookish man; there are no severer tests for the intellectual strength or feebleness of a man than an experienced bookseller can supply. It was in this relation that the writer came in contact with this man. Let me then speak of him as I saw him. His mind was never narrow, but on the contrary always broad. It was fond of science and never pedantic nor frivolous. It was severely solid, but never embittered nor soured. It never revelled in crimination nor recrimination. It was always practical and but slightly poetical. He was fond of history, but he *loved* science. He was too sincere to be visionary, and too serious to frolic with you. He found the world as it was, and he tried to make it better; he was always cheerful, and never disagreeable; as we survey men—he was an honest man, and a Christian gentleman; as ready for an instantaneous summons by his Creator as any of us will ever be. Nevertheless he

died, as in our shortsightedness it must appear, at the very time, so far as his years were concerned, when he was in form to do for men his best service. I cannot speak of his benefactions nor of his charities, for I was neither a subject nor a confidant. But of his intellectual work, so far as his publications show it, I can speak. He was President of the Washington County Agricultural Society for upwards of twenty-two years; in fact the society never had any other President. He used this position to enforce the idea of education as a profound factor in the matter of agricultural success—and in his annual addresses, many of which were printed, in plain and simple language, he spoke these things to his neighbors. In later years he broadened the scope of these addresses by touching national questions—such for instance as the Tariff, and the Coinage, and the Gold basis for a circulating medium, Monometalism as men popularly speak of it. These are positively vital questions, and Mr. Hazard was a man possessed of positive ideas, backed by sufficient courage to utter them, and he did utter them. Sometimes they were questioned, but this never prostrated Mr. Hazard, for he did not talk at random, he could reason. An in-

stance of this is shown by the criticism made by John L. Hayes, of an address made by Mr. Hazard in September, 1884, in which Mr. Hazard urged a low or a lower, wool tariff—Mr. Hazard most effectively replied to Mr. Hayes in the *Boston Herald*, in July, 1885. The arguments of Mr. Hazard did not prevail with Congress; at all events ultimately; the weight of "metal" in the Dingley Congress was too much for it; but if ever an argument could be justified by the trend of events, Mr. Hazard's argument is now so justified by the conditions of wool growers. Concerning monometalism, the time is not yet here, but it is rapidly approaching; for these United States are entering upon new conditions with relations to tariffs, and currency and money, the end of which no man can now see. But there were other occasions given to Mr. Hazard upon which he might give his message unto men. He was chosen the orator at the dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' monument at South Kingston in 1886; the message then was *virtue*, and virtue alone, as the best foundation for a State, and for a nation. Mr. Hazard was chosen orator upon the laying of the corner-stone of the new State House. It was an address adequate to the occasion—it gave the reasons for the existence of Rhode Island in strong and simple phrase, but most effective. We have had nothing here in Rhode Island of a like character superior to it, and not many such things approach it. It was serious, but not severe; thoughtful and not technical; it was, as I first wrote, adequate to the occasion. In 1881 Mr. Hazard read a paper in defence of the *Credit Mobilier* before the Historical Society, which he subsequently printed; besides these things Mr. Hazard has written many more, of which, in this short paper, no mention can be made. Had I space to give extracts on these things, illustrative of the

points suggested, a much better view of the intellectual and moral qualities of Mr. Hazard would appear. The activity of his mind in the development of new business enterprises, by which I mean kinds of business not before practiced here; is shown by works in several States outside of Rhode Island. There is a phase of his character of which I would gladly speak had I the requisite knowledge, but being without personal knowledge BOOK NOTES must quote a friend, Mrs. Caroline E. Robinson of Wakefield, who both knows and has written of them. I mean Mr. Hazard's efforts to elevate the moral character, to educate the intellect, and by beautifying the surroundings of men, to cultivate their tastes. Mrs. Robinson shall tell us of some of these things which Mr. Hazard did for his town. "In 1854 he organized a Sunday school in the school house; in 1875 he invited a few people (thirteen came) to his home; at this meeting a church was formed, and in 1872 he built the present beautiful stone church at Peace Dale, drawing the plans himself; the architectural plans for his large mill and the necessary buildings were all his own—the picturesque stone bridges about Peace Dale were all of his building; one of these stone bridges has a single stone arch with a span of forty feet; he was foremost, in 1885, in founding the Narragansett Library; and he gave the land for a High School building and helped the town in maintaining it." But it was not alone in this direction that Mr. Hazard sought to benefit his people, for Mrs. Robinson tells us that he undertook to strengthen their material welfare by introducing the system of profit sharing which he had studied at Rochdale. He was never a political seeker for office; had he pursued the usual Rhode Island methods there was no office in Rhode Island which he could not have held—for he had money enough to buy it—but he would not.

He was a Representative to the General Assembly one year, 1863; and a Senator to the same body from South Kingston, one year, 1867, and that is the sum of his political office holding; he was nominated in 1875 for Governor of Rhode Island by the Independent Republicans against the regular Republican nominee; he led the poll, receiving 8742 votes, against 8368 for Lippitt. Lippitt obtained control of the General Assembly, by which body he became Governor.

Such was the character of the man whom I have in my poor but earnest way attempted to portray; these works all tend to the elevation of men; in his quiet, unostentatious way Mr. Hazard performed them; they were not hidden; they could not be hidden; for every rod of every roadside showed his influence or his handiwork. Look at him as he was; like other men he had his failings; unlike some other men he had great and good qualities; and he cannot be held responsible for the actions of others; we shall not soon look upon his like.

Rowland Hazard was born at Newport, R. I., 16th August, 1829; he died at Glenn's Falls, N. Y., 16th August, 1898; it was twice his birthday, first into this life, second into the life everlasting.

On the 17th January, 1877, the Editor of the *Journal* wrote this: "We" do not like the announcement that the fifth case of smallpox is reported in the same house where the first case occurred in Woonsocket—in the light of the present day it is "tolerably" certain that at least four of the cases have been entirely unnecessary—when the first case appeared if every man, woman and child had been vaccinated in that house another case would have been impossible in that house without changes in the tenants." The dogmatic arrogance

of the editorial is delightful. What did (WE) know about it—but the whole thing was Dr. E. M. Snow's—that which Dr. Snow considers "tolerably certain" at first, becomes unbounded assurance at the end. But look at the facts in this Woonsocket case. The physician in charge of these cases, Dr. G. Archambault, writes these details to the *Journal*: "Six persons out of the nine cases had been by myself vaccinated about two days after the first case was known (time necessary to obtain good, fresh, vaccine matter) and that has not prevented them from being taken sick six or eleven days afterwards. This vaccination succeeded on only one of those six children. The first of three others taken by the disease was not of course vaccinated (by Archambault at that time) but he had been vaccinated when three years of age; he was now eleven; the two others had been vaccinated—one four years ago, the other an old lady of fifty." Of course Dr. Archambault's facts were absolutely crushing to the editor of the *Journal's* theories; but Dr. Snow (for it was Dr. Snow who propped the Editor) comes out with half a column of double leaded pica, in which no attempt is made to question, or to disprove, the terrible facts which Dr. Archambault states, and which, unless overthrown, themselves utterly destroy Snow's theory. Instead of disproving them Dr. Snow attacks the reliability of European continental statistics. The place for Dr. Snow to attack was Woonsocket. It is by just such actions in the past thirty-five years, in Health matters here, that the people have been befooled.

When men can be found to put \$200,000,000 into 3 per cent. investments, it is an indication that the money cannot be profitably used in business enterprises.

The July, 1898, issue of the Publications of the Rhode Island Historical Society has a paper with the heading "Mt. Hope Lands Wanted," which consists chiefly of a *Letter* addressed to the *Dread Sovereign*, to wit, King Charles the Second. by John Cranston, dated August 1st, 1677—Cranston was then Governor of Rhode Island. The editor of the Historical Society Publications says: "The following is all that can be deciphered of the original writing on the outside of the letter, yet with a knowledge of the subject and of the fact that John Cranston was the Governor of the Colony, 1678-1680, we gain a pretty good idea of the meaning." But the subject matter of the letter itself is not even suggested. Let BOOK NOTES help the Historical Society. The fourth line of this "deciphered" outside reads: "begging Mount Hope wch Cr — had petitioned for." The subject matter then is John Crowne's petition to the King, Charles the Second, for Mount Hope, subsequent to King Philip's war. Crowne's petition is referred to in *Morton's Memorial*, Davis Ed., p. 469; see also Bailey's *Memoir of Plymouth*, Book 4, p. 42; the king wrote a letter to the Rhode Island Colony, Feb. 12th. 1678-9, upon the matter of Crowne's petition (R. I. Coll. Rec., v. 3, p. 40). The Assembly directed Gov. Cranston to reply to the King, and his answer is the letter which the Historical Society has printed; but it was printed by Mr. Bartlett in this 3d v. *Coll. Rec.* p. 43, before giving it to the Historical Society. The blanks in the Historical Society reprint were all supplied by Mr. Bartlett in his reprint. Neither John Crowne, nor the Colony of Rhode Island secured the land of Mount Hope. Subsequently they came, in 1746, to Rhode Island, under a decree of the King of England. Prof. W. H. Munroe in his *Story of the Mount Hope Lands* has a chapter on this Crowne petition (pages

53-57) but strangely enough makes no reference to these Rhode Island historical documents. Mr. Arnold, in *History of Rhode Island*, v. 1, p. 452-3, touches the subject and points out where, in England, the other important papers now are.

The second number of *Current History* for this year is now ready. It is a Cyclopedic Review of all the current history of the world. The time covered in this number is April-May-June, 1898. How any intelligent man can get along without some such epitome (if it is an epitome) I cannot understand; our war with Spain—all International affairs—everything of note transpiring in America—even to Pugilism and Golf—everything of note in Europe—or Asia—or Africa—all Scientific discoveries—all religious interests—in fact everything which every intelligent man must know is herein recorded—and classified so that immediate reference can be had—and all for \$1.50 per year.

There are at this time on Broadway, below Almy street, seventeen (17) tenements to let; six entire houses; four stores or offices; and two vacant lots, both placarded for sale. The trouble is with the rents; landlords do not ask enough for the use of their properties; the rents for these empty house ought at least to be doubled; and all this on one street in a short half mile.

Three weeks ago the *Boston Transcript* told people how "deader" than dead was the silver question in this country; Sept. 1st, in a leaded editorial it told people that it was "half" dead already. The silver question will never die—not even a "protective" tariff was so great a robbery of poor men as was the throwing away one-half our money in 1873—revenge will surely come.

It was one morning in June; I sat writing at my desk; a young boy came quietly in, and standing beside me, laid an orange on the desk, saying as he did so, I'm going to Newport to-day, I'll bring another some day—good bye. This boy was Warren Brownell, who accidentally shot and killed himself on Thursday week, at his mother's home at Newport—one of the brightest, most promising boys whom I have known. Thrice happy child to enter upon the joys of the hereafter—never having suffered the pains and penalties of life—nor has time covered his soul so deep with sin that only eternity can expiate it.

It was a little walk that I took on Monday at noon this week; at peace with all the world I strolled down Westminster street, beside the Barnaby Co., on the lower floor were five people sauntering around looking at goods—at the "Old Reliable" B. & P. Clothing Co. there was one entire (I suppose) man, looking at a coat—and no more. The *Journal* helps these firms, by its

columns, to draw customers; then I walked over the lower floors of the "Outlet," and carefully counted the customers buying goods—*there were 33 of them.* The "Outlet" is not allowed by the *Journal* to use its columns to draw customers—how it must hurt.

In the name of common sense why take \$350,000,000 out of the possession of the people and lock it up in the U. S. Treasury.

The exquisite irony of using Mr. McKinley in the destruction of the principle of "protection," is equalled only by the decree of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scot case in the destruction of slavery which followed.

Under the State Board of Health as now constituted no "regular" practitioner (by which term is meant a physician eligible to membership in the Rhode Island Medical Society) can be admitted to practice medicine in this State, save by the permission of men who are themselves ineligible.

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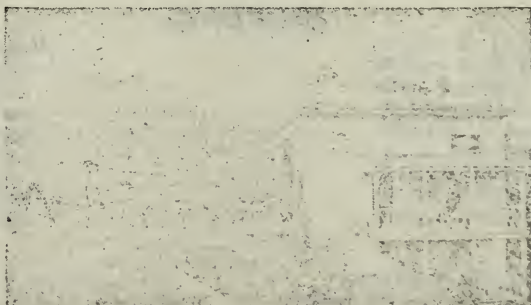
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HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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SATURDAY, Oct. 1, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 20.

Something About Banks and Bank- ing in Providence from 1889 to 1898.

The accompanying tables show the declining values of bank stocks in Providence during the past ten years, 1889-1898. The steadiness of this decline in prices, covering so long a period and including a majority of the banks, indicates something more than a momentary scare; it indicates some specific or general cause. It behooves men to consider this cause—or these causes—whatever they may be. These tables were actually begun in 1889 by the writer; that year was taken because of the failure of the firm Brown, Steese & Clark of Boston, whose notes were held in large amounts by some of the Providence banks. It was followed in the third quarter of that year by large failures here. Seven failures took place, with seven millions of dollars of debts. These were the Richmond Paper Company, with debts of \$670,000; the Manville Company (cotton) for \$1,000,000; the Riverside and Oswego Mills (wool) for \$2,000,000; the Phenix Woolen Company (Dew-wool) for \$573,000; the Thornton Worsted Company (wool) for \$110,000; the Wau-

regan Company, the Nottingham Mills, and Edward P. Taft, for \$2,581,313. The banks here held very large amounts of these debts. The publication of these tables at this time was suggested by an article on business here, published by the *Journal* on the 1st September; but it was only partial, it did not treat all banks alike, and was positively useless in drawing deductions; it was unintelligible; these tables are comprehensive; they show at a glance the trend for ten years; and the showing is indeed a terrible one; it deserves profound study and that too without passion and without bias; it is of the profoundest interest to those having savings to invest. If men could or would pay their debts such a fearful shrinkage in bank stocks could not take place; all men are not financial rascals, all men are not rashly incompetent, nor recklessly dishonest. There must be then some general or specific cause. Has the management of these banks fallen into the hands of men incompetent or dishonest or both; have these men used their positions to bolster each other or to steal fortunes, or both together? An illustration of this incompetence has just come to emphasize the situation. A firm here failed; the head of which firm held directorships in four of the largest banks.

Such positions enable a man to play the "I'll tickle you, You tickle me" game with success; at all events with success for the borrowers. The result was an indebtedness of upwards of \$1,050,000, largely held by these banks, with the uncovering of a corresponding weakness among a lot of other borrowers. Only the advent of "Imperialism," or the restoration of Silver, will enable this failed firm, with many directorships, ever to pay more than ten or fifteen cents on a dollar of its indebtedness. Such management indeed ruined the *Bank of the Republic* here in 1857. BOOK NOTES has given the terrible story; such management has afflicted the *Third National*, but why did not the stockholders look to the Supreme Court for justice? BOOK NOTES long ago pointed out the remedy in such a case; directors are trustees, and are legally liable as trustees. BOOK NOTES has cited the Decisions, (vol. 7, p. 3); the present terrible condition was clearly indicated by BOOK NOTES in 1889. A borrowing director can no more serve his own purposes and be true to the persons whose money he is lending than a "kiting" Judge can administer justice. But while theft and incompetence and self-interest can do much in the way of ruin, they cannot do everything—there is another cause. It cannot be denied that there has been a *general* decline in the values of property; houses and lands, especially lands for dwellings, have declined as universally and as badly as bank stocks; but all this time debts have remained intact, and for this reason many have become bankrupt. Individual exceptions cannot ultimately change general conditions. There must be then some general cause—and some remedy. There ought to be fewer banks and fewer bank directors; this might lessen competition, and to some extent mitigate the

evil of incompetence; it never could nor would eliminate the element of self-seeking, for the directorships. There must then still remain some specific or general cause. The owners of banks should remedy the details of mismanagement, but they should first seek the causes of their losses. Is it not "surplus" labor, the carrying around of dead bodies? Why not bury them? Nor will indolence preserve the fruits of labor. With all modesty the writer suggests three causes: 1st, mismanagement; 2d, the tariff; 3d, money. The writer can but lightly touch upon these causes, for it becomes only men of the profoundest wisdom and sagacity to dig deep enough to destroy the root of ruin. *First*, then, mismanagement; it may, and in fact does, ruin a bank, but not all banks—it cannot at the same time disturb the value of the land on which our houses stand; it therefore is not *general*, it is eliminated. *Second*, the tariff; it enriches some men and makes other men poor; it is not *general*. The word overproduction so often used in connection with it is only special. No overproduction of land has lowered the value of the land on which our houses stand. The tariff, therefore, is not a *general* cause, it is eliminated. If this reasoning is correct, then the final cause must be the condition of money. What is that condition? The writer has his convictions; but it would be manifestly improper for one who has so clearly shown his incapacity to obtain and retain money to force his opinions upon men so much richer and wiser than himself. Nevertheless, it is the "rich" and wise men who have wrought this ruin in case incompetence or "mismanagement" is the sole cause; they convict themselves by their own convictions. There is an additional cause. Suppose that my property will pay my debts, about how much could I pay by throwing one-half of it into the fire?

This table shows the par of every bank stock and the selling prices at four periods from 1889 to 1898 inclusive, together with the surpluses of each Bank:

BANK.	Par	Surplus 1889	Sold 1889	Sold 1890	Sold 1895	Surplus 1898	Sold 1898
American	50	78,000	50	43	47	79,000	33
Atlantic	50	6,857	46	43	32	17,250	32
Blackstone Canal	25	90,000	26	23	25	100,000	23
City	50	170,000	71	68	63	125,000	50
Commercial	50	87,000	52	42	48	88,000	41
First National	100	76,000	125	110	113	100,000	110
Second do.	100	60,000	142	130	126	60,000	98
Third do.	100	100,000	125	106	97	27,000	50
Fourth do.	100	100,000	123	121	118	100,000	107
Fifth do.	50	60,000	61	50	49	37,600	34
Globe	50	60,000	88	80	52	60,000	51
High Street	50	none	60	58	60	none	64
Manufacturers'	100	240,000	141	135	136	300,000	134
Merchants'	50	200,000	70	66	60	200,000	54
Mechanics'	50	100,000	70	62	54	64,100	37
National Exchange	50	100,000	102	98	100	500,000	98
National Eagle	50	100,000	69	57	55	67,500	38
North America	50	200,000	61	47	43	29,200	30
Bank of Commerce	50	236,000	56	55	47	148,000	34
Old National	100	86,569	114	114	113	100,000	100
Providence	400	305,405	625			467,345	780
Phoenix	50	90,000	88	77	72	435,000	77
R. I. National	25	120,000	32	27	26	25,000	16
Roger Williams	75	103,000	78	73	69	88,100	65
Westminster	50	none	65	60	58	none	59
Weyboset	50	100,000	61	55	50	84,250	38

Since 1889 five banks have gone into liquidation, to wit, the "Butcher's & Drover's;" the "Jackson;" the "Trader's;" the "State;" and the "Union." Their aggregate capital was \$1,271,685 00.

In 1889 the Banks quoted were 33, of which 6 were below par.

1890	"	"	"	33,	"	9	"	"	"
1897	"	"	"	26,	"	12	"	"	"
1898	"	"	"	26,	"	15	"	"	"

It is apparent that these advertised surpluses have nothing, or very little, to do with the values of the stocks; stocks fall as surpluses increase; the "National Exchange" stock sold for a higher price with one-fifth its present surplus; but the landed estate there comes in; were its stock entirely sunk, the land would pay out the stockholders. The "High Street" is one of the two banks which in the ten years show a gain for the stockholders. It announces no surplus.

Total Capital 26 Banks,	\$14,941,800
Announced Surplus,	3,290,930
Capital and Surplus,	\$18,232,730
Present Selling Value,	\$13,840,395

The table below shows the universality of their losses; with but two exceptions, every bank in Providence has suffered, some of them terribly. This table is based upon the selling prices in 1889, before the failures mentioned above, and the selling, or bid, prices at present.

	GAIN	LOSS		GAIN	LOSS
American.....		488,800	Old National.....		70,000
Atlantic.....		63,000	Providence.....	193,750	
Blackstone Canal....		60,000	Phoenix.....		99,000
City.....		210,000	R. I. National.....		384,000
Commercial.....		220,000	Roger Williams.....		86,658
First National.....		75,000	Westminster.....		24,000
Second ".....		126,000	Weybosset.....		230,000
Third ".....		375,000	<p>The total losses of twenty-four of these banks is \$5,302,507; minus the gain of the remaining two banks, a net loss to the stockholders appears of \$5,099,157; it is a shrinkage in value of the stock of these twenty-six banks of upwards of 33 per cent.; the combined capital of these banks being \$14,941,800. Trust companies are not included in the present tables. The following table shows the number of institutions in Providence in 1856, 1866, 1876, 1886 and 1897, with the amount of capital:</p>		
Fourth ".....		80,000			
Fifth ".....		162,000			
Globe.....		222,000			
High Street.....	9,600				
Manufacturers.....		35,000			
Merchants.....		320,000			
Mechanics.....		330,000			
National Eagle.....		270,000			
National Exchange..		40,000			
North America.....		580,000			
Nat. Bk. of Commerce		752,048			

In 1856 there were	38	banks.	Capital,	\$15,039,350.
" 1866 " " "	36	"	"	16,718,200.
" 1876 " " "	31	"	"	16,683,400.
" 1886 " " "	33	"	"	16,758,485.
" 1897 " " "	29	"	"	16,471,800.

The trust companies are not included in these tables.

These are

R. I. Hospital,	capital,	\$1,000,000;	surplus,	\$750,000.
Industrial,	"	1,000,000;	"	250,000.
Union,	"	250,000;	"	100,000.
Providence,	"	1,900;		
R. I. Mortgage & Trust,		131,500;		
Mercantile,		300,000;	(in liquidation)	

The immunity of the writer of Book Notes from arrest which he has enjoyed of late is owing to the fact that we have left the territory of Dick Clark and reached the territory of Frank Anthony, both officers of the police. Frank, like Dick Clark, has his weaknesses. Among these weaknesses is his fondness for pets. He has first, Pet and her baby, and then the list runs along down among dogs, cats, and roosters, until he comes to a fine parrot, which in effect is a member of the Anthony

family. The other day an old woman who came from the fields of Pignerolo, in Sardinia; the very lands on which Napoleon fought his first battles in 1796, stopped in front of Officer Frank's house on Sixth street, crying "huckle-berries! huckleberries!" in the vernacular of New England; and a voice came out of Frank's window: "What's that? What's that?" And so the old woman cried again, "huckleberries! huckleberries!" and the voice came back: "Oh! shut

up!" But the old woman cried again, "Buy some huckleberries to-day?" And then the bird, (for it was Frank Anthony's parrot that was doing the talking) cried back: "Oh, go to [Hades]" The Vecchia went sorrowfully her way, muttering as she went: "Ah! bad woman in that house; she sware at me." Frank's parrot attended the wrong school in early life.

The eastern newspapers are apparently under the control of men who profit, or expect to profit by making gold the sole money of this country and keeping it so. But in this blind leading under these men these newspapers rarely or never tell the truth. Here is a recent case. The Providence *Journal* of the 22d September, has this scare heading: "*Connecticut's Choice. A Lively Contest Between the Gold and Silver Factions. The Gold Men Finally Won by a Majority of 17*" The place was as the Democratic Convention. On the same day the Boston *Herald* of the same date, has this: "Silver Men Routed. Gold Democrats Won in

Connecticut Convention." Now look at the facts. Both papers have the assurance to print directly under their lying heading the first plank in the platform adopted:

Resolved, that the Democracy of Connecticut is now, as it has ever been, in favor of bimetallism as enunciated by Jefferson, affording, as it does, the most stable standard of value, and we declare ourselves unalterably opposed to monometallism of any kind.

Under the State Board of Health as now constituted no "regular" practitioner (by which term is meant a physician eligible to membership in the Rhode Island Medical Society) can be admitted to practice medicine in this State, save by the permission of men who are themselves ineligible.

A "regular" physician sends word to the writer that the paragraph above is not true. Let us see. The State Board of Health comprises seven (7) members of which number is Gray, *Civil Engineer*, not eligible to membership in the medical Society; Rev. Locke also ineligible; Dr. Budlong a homeopath, ineligible; and Dr. Sprague, homeopath, ineligible. These are four men out of the seven. How far wrong did Book

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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

61 SNOW STREET, (Winthrop Building.) PROVIDENCE, R. I.

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SATURDAY, Oct. 15, 1898

VOL. 15.
No. 21.

How the Turk's Head Sits Upon the Body of the People.

On the 26th October, 1842, the following letter was addressed to Messrs. Truman Beckwith, Charles Holden and John H. Ormsbee.

Gents.—We hand you herewith a schedule of estates owned by Nicholas Brown and Tho. P. Ives, deceased, which we will thank you to appraise and divide into two equal parts. It is desirable in the division to have reference to the present productiveness as well as the intrinsic value of the several estates. We are, very respectfully,

Your obt. friends and svts.,

BROWN & IVES.

The gentlemen accepted the work requested of them. The schedule of estates contained fifty-eight (58) parcels, with the locations and with brief descriptions. The gentlemen placed money values upon each parcel, divided the schedule in two parts, as nearly equal as in their judgment it was possible. One schedule began with the Whitman estate (the Turk's Head we now call it) at the junction of Weybosset and Westminster streets; the other schedule began with the Hopkins estate, then occupied by Dr. S. B. Tobey, No. 32 South Main street; the office of Brown & Ives was then No. 36; just below the estate named. The schedule

beginning with the Whitman estate went (probably) to the heirs of Nicholas Brown; at all events, it was taxed in 1844, which was the first year after the division, to the heirs of Nicholas Brown, to wit, to John C. Brown, Nicholas Brown and Ann B. Francis (J. B. Francis; guardian) at \$30,000, which was the precise value which the gentlemen had placed upon it. The Tax Assessors taxed it upon its full valuation, or at all events all that the gentlemen considered it worth. The entire value placed by these gentlemen upon the estates owned by Brown & Ives in 1843 was \$118,000. But since it is with the Whitman estate only which we now deal, no further reference will now be made to the other estates. This Turk's Head property remains to-day exactly as it was in 1843, when it came to the present owners, so far as the earth and the buildings are concerned. The buildings were then standing just as they are now standing — no "improvements" whatever have been made. It is now taxed upon a valuation of \$276,280 for the land, and \$10,000 for the buildings — one-third to the heirs, individually, of John Carter Brown, one-third to the heirs of Caroline M. Brown (widow of Nicholas), and one-third to Marshall Woods, husband of the late Ann Brown Francis.

The sole purpose of this inquiry is to discover the bearing upon this community, in a pecuniary point of view, of this holding of the Turk's Head estate. Out of the people of Providence, through tenants, is taken by these owners upwards of \$35,000 annually in rents. It is sufficiently accurate to say that the people of Providence now pay to these three owners of this estate the entire cost to the said owners every year, and in addition these same people pay for these owners all municipal taxes levied upon the estate. And it goes without saying that whatever increased rental value has now been given to the estate, from, say, \$3,000 in 1843 to \$35,000 in 1898, has been given by the people who live and labor here, while not one cent has been given by these owners, who draw through their tenants these immense sums. The plain and simple truth is that the people who live and labor here, and who have contributed this great rental value upon this estate, out of their own pockets are made to pay the penalty; when compared, as an investment, with the recent Government loan, had the people of Providence taken \$1,000,000 in these bonds and given them to these owners to be relieved from further taxation, it would have been a very great saving, for it would have relieved the people of these monthly increases of rent. That which is true of this Turk's Head estate is just as true of every estate in the business centre of this city, and of all other cities. No people on earth can long endure such a tax. It is a tax levied upon us, not for the government, but to benefit other men. It is only a question of a short time when these three owners of Turk's Head will take from this community the entire cost of the property every six months, and then every three months, and then --well, what then?

The Wild Extravagance of Schools.

The resolution of "retrenchment" passed by the School Committee is one of the greatest steps in reform ever forced through that body. It is sincerely to be hoped that it will stay just where the School Committee put it. Even if every evening school should be closed, not only for this winter, but forever, the end would be a great gain. The cost of tuition for these evening schools is terrific when compared with the "day" pupils. Then think of the army of supernumerary teachers which would be sent into other fields to *earn*, actually earn, their livings. Let me give you a partial list of those supernumeraries, who "preside" over the regular teachers, with their names and salaries; First Critic, \$1,000; Critics, (grammar grade) \$1,000; Critics, (primary grade) \$750; Pupil Teachers, \$360; Musical Director, \$2,000; Four Music Teachers, \$700 each; Supervisor of Drawing, \$1,500; Assistant Supervisors of Drawing (three), each, 1,000; Supervisor Physical Training, \$1200; Assistant Supervisors (two), \$800 each; Principals Cooking Schools (three) each \$800; Sewing Teachers (five), each \$900; Kindergarten Principals (fourteen), each, \$625; Assistants (fifteen), each, \$500; Supervisor of Penmanship, \$1,500; First and Second Supervisors, grammar and primary, (three), each, \$1,200; Third Supervisors, grammar and primary, \$1,000; Supervisor Discipline Schools, seven in number, \$1,200, office in City Hall; Principals of the Discipline Schools (seven), each, \$750. These Discipline Schools ought to be abolished instantly. They are of no value, and are becoming a positive danger; they are on a precise line with Magdalen Asylums. In a recent report the "Supervisor" admits their evil. She says that no boy can be returned "cured" to the same school from which he was

sent. They become "marked," like "Reform School Boys;" there is an ineffaceable stigma put upon them. To call these things "frills" is to fool with facts; they are useless leeches upon the taxpayers of this city. The teaching of cooking and sewing is a positive farce; they should never have been adopted; and ought not to be continued. The great relative cost of the Evening, as compared with the Day Schools, is stupendous. In 1896 there were twenty evening schools continued twenty weeks, actually 95 days, of two hours each; the number in attendance was, 1st week, 2,217; 7th week, 1,175; 16th week, 1,156; total cost, \$32,534. Reckoned upon an average of the 7th week, the cost per capita was \$27.69. The day pupils were in school 183 days, five hours each; or in all 915 hours, at a cost per capita of \$31.37. The costliness is apparent. The figures below show the actual running expenses of the Providence Public Schools in 1866, 1876, 1886, and 1896, and the cost per capita. These figures do not include new lands, or bu'ldings.

Year.	Total Cost.	Number of Pupils.	Cost Per Capita.
1866	\$122,890	7,011	\$17.52
1876	217,160	11,430	18.12
1886	242,985	12,958	18.78
1896	505,899	16,123	31.37

On page 13 of the latest School Report the Chairman speaks of this per capita cost, but he nowhere has the courage to present the figures. Just observe the enormous increased cost in 1896 above that of 1886, and then describe the gain in the education of the pupil. Not only was there no gain but on the contrary a positive loss.

In the face of such a showing the School Committee had the cool audacity to ask for \$719,032, nearly 25 per cent of the entire tax levy, and in order

to give backing to their tremendous "bluff," the committee presents a very carefully selected list of American cities, 31 in number, showing the percentage of the School Appropriations to the total tax levied; the lowest, 16 per cent; the highest, 53 per cent. Can a man charged with stealing set up in defence that some others stole since he did; does the wrong doing Kansas City furnish an excuse for the Providence School Committee? Only eleven cities in this country equal the immense proportion of the tax levies which the Providence School Committee now asks. The distemper seems to be infectious. Just now the Board of Education of New York City has asked for 25 millions of dollars for the ensuing year, in place of the 12 millions given last year. The salary list was raised \$2,500,000. Here, too, somebody's salary is increased at every meeting.

In the paper on the management of Banks in Providence in the last preceding issue, BOOK NOTES stated that among the large "manufacturing" failures in the third quarter, 1889, was the Manville Co. This was an error; the Manville Co. did not fail. BOOK NOTES is now informed by the Company that "what really happened at that time which probably led to the error was the fact that Lewis Bros., who were the selling agents of the Manville Co. in New York did fail and the Manville Co. was held as endorsers for a very large amount of their paper, which obligation was met and paid in full, although it was thought by some people who were not acquainted with the the resources of the Company, that they would not be able to do so." BOOK NOTES has made atonement to the utmost extent of its ability, but it has a word more to say. It fell into this error by a false entry upon the records of the Dun Mercantile Agency. These records were shown to

the writer, by courtesy, and the failure is thereon recorded. Mr. Bartlet, the Manager, upon seeing the statement in print, was the first to point out the error to the writer. Now if this error is too gross to print, is it not too gross to stand in a *written* record. The Mercantile Agency owes to the Manville Company the immediate expurgation of the false record. This error changes in no way, the lines of thought, nor the reasoning, nor the deductions drawn by the writer of the article.

The placing of individuals upon Boards of Directors in Banks, by other men, to be used for political, or business ends, has been going on here for thirty years; look back to 1873, and observe how the Spragues did it, wrecking two saving banks, and nearly wrecking three regular banks; to-day the same thing is being done, and the rod is held quite as severely over men as the Spragues held it, in the banks which they controlled; besides this influence business firms secure representation upon different boards; many a business firm has its own representative in as many as three different banks; and often a single individual is found in three, or four banks. In one case a single firm is represented by seven Directorships. Here is the most recent action in New York upon such transactions; it is from the *N. Y. Herald*, 5th October.

WARNING TO TRUST COMPANIES.

Must Not Make Loans to Concerns in Which Directors Are Interested.

Superintendent Kilburn, of the State Banking Department, has written an opinion that trust companies may not make loans to firms or corporations of which their directors are members or are financially interested.

It is pitiful to see honest shopkeepers on Westminster Street struggling for

existence, without once stopping to inquire into the cause of their fruitless struggles. There are just three of these causes; the system of rents; the Dingley Tariff robbery; and the destruction of one-half of their property by the demonetization of silver, leaving their debts intact. These will ultimately fail them all.

Rents were based upon the prices maintained by the two metals. Values have shrunk by the throwing away of one of these metals, silver, and these values can never be restored save by an equalization, by the substitution of some form of actual money, in place of this silver, or the restoration of the silver itself.

If these reduced prices have come to stay, they will ultimately reach every person in this country. The debtors will suffer most, for they will lose everything; while a fifty thousand dollar man, owing no debts, will shrink to a twenty-five thousand dollar fellow; but he will have something left.

The terrible shrinkages in Bank stocks shown in the article of October 18, are only one evidence of the terrible loss, inflicted upon us all, by this dreadful law of 1873. Individual exceptions will not invalidate general laws. Exactly the same Bank situation exists in Boston, because the same general laws fit these cases.

There is no comical side to being made a vicarious sacrifice. It means death, whether in matters of business or in actual life. This being held up to view as an illustration of the virtue of an "honest" dollar has no funny side to it.

Mr. Brooks Adams has been an advocate for the restoration of *Silver* to be again *Money*. Certain Menometalist papers have charged Mr. Adams with having recanted. This note from the *Springfield Republican* is the answer of Mr. Adams to these libels.

"First, regarding silver, I have nothing to take back or modify in anything I have ever written, or in any opinion I have ever held on that subject. I believe now, as I have always believed, that discarding silver as a standard of value was a disaster to our civilization; and I believe still that its re-toration, could it be restored by reasonable means, would be an unmingled blessing.

Were I fanatic for silver I should oppose expansion, because, by opposing expansion, I should narrow the market for our surplus products; by narrowing the market I should cause a glut, distress, and consequent agitation for more money; whereas by obtaining new vents for our exports we relieve the pressure. It seems to me, however, that what we all want is to have our country great and prosperous, and so long as it is prosperous the way in which the end is reached is not material. I accordingly accept imperialism, and having accepted it, I want to see it carried out logically and successfully.

We have adopted the policy of falling

prices, and the pressure of falling prices has, in a few years, turned us from a great importer of the manufactures of other nations to a great exporter of our own manufactures. In another 10 years we promise to have the largest surplus of manufactures to sell of any people in the world. For this surplus we must find a market, and, as the tendency is each year more to close Europe and European colonies to us, we must turn toward Asia. But if we are to turn toward Asia and elsewhere, and enter into the struggle for foreign markets, we must be as well organized as our competitors, and we must be prepared for war; yet we are confronted with the fact that, in this trifling war with Spain, our administrative system has broken down. The most pressing questions, therefore, which now are immediately before us are those relating to our internal organization and to our external policy, and I intended to say in my interview that I thought the men who showed themselves most competent to handle these problems would probably be those who would direct the country during the next few years."

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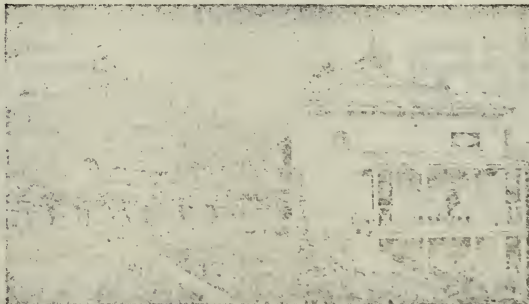
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SATURDAY, Oct. 29, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 22.

Are the Schools Run For a Common School Education—or what—Money?

The Boston *Herald* in a long editorial October 8, concerning the Providence public schools, says the School Committee, "after careful consideration" *

* 'voted to discontinue a number of branches of study that have been introduced of late years.' Had that writer undertaken to have written a deliberate falsehood he could not have succeeded better. No branch of study has been discontinued—simply the shelving of a lot of supernumerary people, drawing great sums from the already over-taxed people. Can a teacher perform more effective service under a salary of \$2000 than she, or he, can at \$1500? Note the tremendous increase in the salaries connected with the Superintendent's office. In 1876 the entire cost was \$2500; in 1896 it was \$7500, and the work was largely shifted upon a lot of needless supervisors. It is just such mismanagement as this which has so increased the per capita cost of a school education. Providence is paying as much per capita for her *Evening schools* as Boston is paying for her entire school system. Providence has been paying per capita for the Evening

School "pupils" \$27 69. for 190 hours instruction; for her Day Schools per capita, for 915 hours instruction \$31.37, while Boston for her Day Schools pays per capita \$28.65.

This note was refused admission among the "Letters from the People" by the *Journal*. But BOOK NOTES can give it circulation and possibly something more:

21st October, 1898.

To the Editor of the *Journal*:

Some one with the signature M. H. Bixby (possibly the clergyman) sends you a letter dated October 20, in which the writer (Bixby) says that he served on the School Committee an unnumbered period of months. Then he says "It is very surprising that I (Bixby) never discovered that 'political ring.'" To me, who served some six years in the School Committee, the failure of Mr. Bixby to discover is not at all surprising—he never meant to discover the ring—but upon the slightest hint from the gentleman I should be glad to uncover it to the end that not only Mr. Bixby, but everybody, can "discover" it.

Sincerely,

SIDNEY S. RIDER

From the *Journal* 22d October. "No man can afford not to know what his

civic associates are thinking about, and in this view of the matter a department is maintained in the *Sunday Journal* for any communication on topics of public interest."

The *Journal* published Mr. Supt-Tarbell's "denial" of Miss Nora Cushing's letter, in which she says that he told her that a political "pull" was necessary for a competent person to secure a position as a teacher. Mr. Tarbell's denial is an admission of the fact. BOOK NOTES can supply a bill of particulars if necessary. In another place BOOK NOTES shows the increased cost for the Superintendent's service since Mr. Tarbell was given the office—from \$2500 in 1876 to \$7500 in 1896.

The *Springfield Republican* received the following inquiry:

To the Editor of The Republican:—

Twenty-five years ago there were issued by the Prince society of Boston privately-printed books, being exact copies of old colonial works. Is that society still in existence and continuing to reproduce old books? There was an Agathynian club in Rhode Island with purpose much as stated above; is that in existence? I have some of the earlier books they printed, and if there are later ones would like to get them.

A. K.

Toledo, O., September 26, 1898.

It was sent to Mr. Harrison; by Mr. Harrison it was sent to Mr. Foster; and by Mr. Foster brought to myself. This is the *Republican's* answer.

Concerning the Prince society, we refer our correspondent to Rev. Edmund F. Slafter, 249 Berkeley street, Boston, its president, for full information as to its activities. Inquiry as to the Agathynian club brought replies from J. L. Harrison, librarian of the Providence Athenaeum, and from William E.

Foster of the Providence Public Library, but they found no trace of such a club. Sidney S. Rider, editor of BOOK NOTES, —a unique and admirable quadri-leaflet issued in Providence fortnightly, has the largest collection in existence of books and pamphlets relating to Rhode Island, and is presumed to know every thing about the history of the state, but he does not know about the Agathynian club. Mr. Foster of the public library recalls the Narragansett club, which was formed for the purpose of reprinting the writings of Roger Williams, and other writings having some relation to him. It appears to be safe to presume that the Agathynians must have been of some other region than the state of Roger Williams."

The Agathynian club turned out to be a New York City institution existing even to 1870 and possibly still in existence.

The *Nation* a few weeks since bewailed the lamentable ignorance of the English Parliament as shown by the repeal of the law of compulsory vaccination; in the issue for September 22 (p. 229) it says: "It is incontestible that a man may die of small pox though he have been vaccinated ever so thoroughly, while he cannot have the disease at all if he is not exposed to its contagion." Then what is the use of forcing this pus from somebody's abscess into my body? The Woonsocket cases of small pox in 1877, cited in a recent BOOK NOTES, proves the truth of the *Nation's* present position. Within my own time every doctor maintained the absolute necessity of drawing the blood out of my body, *in order to sustain life*, and my father, but for my childish ignorance, would have died of thirst for water, the doctors prohibiting the use of it in cases of typhoid. Two abler men among English physicians cannot

be named than John Hunter and John Abernethy. Now observe: "Mr. Hunter further showed that the animal matter of one person might induce disease in another even though the person from whom the matter was derived had no disease (Abernethy's Surgical Observations, p. 181). But the cause of this perturbation by the *Nation* is the publication of *Vaccination a Delusion* by Mr. W. Russel Wallace, one of the most distinguished English scientists of the present time. Mr. Wallace has positively destroyed all English statistics concerning the value of vaccination, and shown by these very statistics the danger of it. It was this very powerful argument which overthrew the law of compulsory vaccination in the English parliament.

The Boston *Transcript* is a monometalist mouthpiece; to save its soul it cannot tell why. It contained this paragraph in a recent issue concerning the appointment of Mr. Curzon as Viceroy of India:

"The particular conditions with which Mr. Curzon must deal are singularly difficult. Scarcely a viceroy in years has had his ability or his knowledge of India and of Asia, but he will need both to the full. The famine is indeed stayed; but the farmers, small and large, complain of burdens that are a bar to contentment. The cold weather will in all probability bring back the plague—this time at Calcutta—and the application of the sanitary methods of Europe is almost sure to provoke native turbulence. The restlessness of the growing class of *over-educated* and under-employed Hindus, and of the native press gives continuing apprehension, and for two years past there have been more signs of seditious temper in India than in the forty that have elapsed since the mutiny. Indian finance is

in disorder, and there are almost as many suggested remedies as counselors."

Why has not the *Transcript* the honesty to point to the cause of all this "financial disorder?" Why does it not tell why the "farmers complain of burdens that are a bar to contentment?" The *Transcript* knows full well that all came from the arbitrary closing of the Indian mints, an act which in a moment robbed every man of one-half his property, leaving his debts intact. But the *Transcript* attributes all this Indian misery to the "*over educated class*." If ignorance tends to keep men quiet while you rob them, why appropriate money for schools? Then look at this twaddle: "The Viceroy will have the material assistance of an American wife whose charm and tact have made her a personage." This woman is a sister of Joseph Leiter, who undertook to rob all mankind by choking them for bread. Will she also continue the "Leitering" of the burdens of the poor in India.

The call for a mass meeting to maintain the present iniquitous school system was signed by several excellent men and women, but they were without practical experience concerning the present times, having no children in the schools; some not even married, and some educating what children they have in private schools. So far as any practical results came, it was a perfect fizzle. The putting of Dr. Sullivan upon the committee to present the excellence of the present conditions to His Excellency the Mayor—simply because he had married a daughter of the late Mr. Banigan—was a fitting finale to the mass meeting.

The City Council was not stampeded by the political wire pullers of the School Committee. The result of the vote—after the "mass" meeting—in the

Council was 34 to 4 against the School Committee. At the ward primaries Tuesday night the wire pullers of the School Committee began operations to pack the City Council. It will do no good, the pulse of the people has been felt, and an immense majority are in favor of an entire reformation of this rotten system. Unfortunately the Council listened to the senseless clamor for Evening Schools—the most useless and the most costly of all the systems.

The *Journal* of August 4 had an article with the heading *Law Enforced*. Then it tells how the State Board of Health caused the arrest of Dr. W. H. Merrill, who came from Massachusetts to an "outing" at the Ocean House at Watch Hill, R. I., and there "practiced" upon a sick person without the permission of Dr. Swarts. But the *Atlantic Medical Weekly* of August 13 says that "an amicable agreement was reached between him and the secretary of the Board," and, continues the *Weekly*, "he still continues in his illegal practice." Dr. Munyon prescribes in Providence, and so too does Dr. Lace at Pascoag. The "amicable" agreement between Dr. Swarts and this person charged, did not prevent Dr. Merrill from being brought into court at Wakefield August 25, when Merrill waived examination and the case was sent to the Common Pleas Court, where it will probably sleep the sleep that knows no waking. Meantime the State Board of Health continues its incessant persecution of Dr. Jules Pirlot.

The Central Falls Journal of Sept. 3, has this: "That under the first year of the Dingley tariff we exported \$50,000,000 worth more manufactured goods than we imported, whereas every previous year we imported more than we

exported; and thus we see somewhat how a protective tariff enlarges our commerce." Allowing this to be true, will this Central Falls Journal please inform BOOK NOTES what was the use of a Dingley Tariff as a "protector."

The Boston *Herald* of Oct. 5, has this concerning the failures of the woollen manufactures, in spite of the Dingley Tariff. "This panacea of a high tariff evidently does not operate to make woollen manufacture prosperous. Its difficulties are too radical to be cured by a surface application. Those concerned in it must seek something that strikes deeper, if they wish to be put on a prosperous basis." Exactly; now will not the *Herald* inform the suffering manufacturer just what must be done to restore prosperity.

A few months since the Providence *Journal of Commerce* gave a most encouraging account of the boom in business of which a certain manufacturing corporation here was in the enjoyment. The truth was that the corporation was at the very time arranging a compromise with its creditors at 40 cents. In a more recent number an account was given of the "good progress" in business of a certain concern, the mortgages upon which were under foreclosure at the very moment.

It seems incredible nevertheless it is true, that a very large proportion of the "family washings" of clothes from the villages and country towns are sent every Monday morning into this city to be washed.

The New York *Herald* of October 26th says, "Financiers do not fear free silver while President McKinley's term lasts." If free silver will enhance the value of a debtor's property why should financiers fear it. The restoration of silver

to be actual money would save the equity of your home, and keep it from being taken by the holder of the mortgage. It would send to par the stock of every Bank in Providence.

The New York *Herald* and the Boston *Herald* have each contained articles on the holdings of the earth in New York City by the Astors. Both papers fix the amount in money value at more than \$200,000,000. Thus the power of oppression, by this one family, of the men in New York, is infinitely greater than the power possessed by any monastic community in England before the enactment of the statutes of mortmain.

The writer has long questioned the propriety of giving men the legal power to make wills, especially wills disposing forever of the entire surface of the earth; but if everybody would exercise that wisdom exhibited by the Rev. Lucius W. Bancroft, things would not be quite so bad. One of his conditions was that "she (his sister) should

destroy all manuscripts which I may leave," which covered his sermons, lectures and addresses, representing his entire work in the ministry. It was an awful confession.

In a recent article we said the Peace Dale Library was founded largely by the exertions of Rowland Hazard in 1885; it was a typographical error for 1855; BOOK NOTES thanks the librarian for pointing out the error.

The third "editorial" in the *Journal* of Saturday the 22d October, was taken almost verbatim from a letter written by Thomas G. Shearman and published a day before in the *Springfield Republican*. There is no indication by the *Journal* writer that the article was not his own.

Is it within the power of the State Board of Registration to change the result of an election and to place in power men not elected by the voters of the people?

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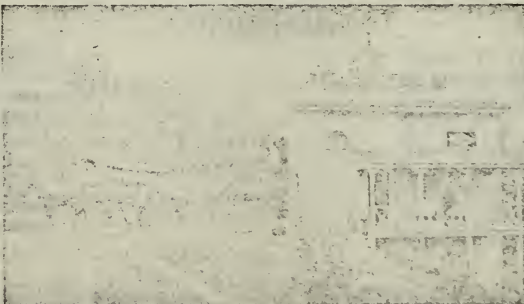
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The Hoppin Homestead Estate as a Protector of the People's Property.

A short time since BOOK NOTES published a note illustrative of the character of the pecuniary lever which the Turk's Head estate was for the "lifting" of the earnings of men. It was a paper purely for the protection and preservation of the right to hold property. It was concrete conservatism. It showed how the people gave *all the money value to land*; and it showed how the present system of laws were fully as effective and even more dangerous than the feudal system which it has succeeded; and it showed how by these laws, which only holders of the land had made, individuals were enabled to get away from the people *all the money value of the land* which those people had created. The question at once arises: Was this community specially gathered for the purpose of giving money value to the lands of certain individuals, and then *paying these individuals* for the doing of it. In further illustration of this very extraordinary situation BOOK NOTES will now touch upon the *Hoppin Homestead Estate*, on Westminster street, between Snow and Aborn streets. This building was erected by the heirs of the late B. Hoppin about 1874. The land

upon which it stands was bought by Mr. Hoppin for \$2250. The deed is the evidence; the contract for the building was between \$81,000 and \$82,000; this fact was told to me by the architect, Bucklin; but the contractor failed and the Hoppins were obliged to finish the building at some cost above the contract price—but not much beyond it. The actual cost to the Hoppins of both the land and the building was not more than a hundred thousand dollars.

A single firm, with some changes in the personnel, but always in the same business, occupied the lower western floor of this building even from the very time of its being built. I have it from excellent authority that this firm alone has paid to the owners of the building, in this time of their occupancy more than \$130,000 or about \$30,000 more than the land and the building cost. This firm had failed twice, and the stores were for rent, and the following notice was published in the Providence, Boston and New York papers in order to find men in the same business with the failed firm, to come here and repeat the experiment:

CHINA, CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

The fine store for many years occupied by WOOD, BICKNELL & POTTER for the sale of China, Crockery, Glass and Silverware will

be to let on August 1st on favorable terms to a responsible party G W R MATTESON, 50 South Main Street

Mr. Matteson is not the owner of the property; he is merely the agent for the owners, a corporation composed of the John Carter Brown heirs under the name Narragansett Land Company. The rent which the land corporation asks for the still not rented premises is \$6500. The estate is taxed now on a valuation of \$321,080, of which \$125,000 is on the building and \$196,080 for the land. The rent roll is estimated at \$35,000 per annum. Thus a corporation can take, by means of tenants, out of the people here the tax levied upon the estate, and about \$30,000 in addition every year, and every other year an increase. If it is a four (4) per cent investment, the "return" is greater than that for one million dollars of the Government loan—and this, too, upon, or by means of, a building built within twenty-five years, at a cost of less than one hundred thousand dollars. The time has already come when this corporation takes out of the people here every three years all that the estate cost the Hoppins to build it. Now let us consider as a business proposition the establishment of a crockery store there by New York or Boston parties, or in fact by anybody else, at a rent of \$6,500. The old firm having re-organized and now occupying about one-third of their former quarters. A Department Store places a dozen counters in the basement upon which are samples of everything which any crockery shop can keep; each sample is numbered and priced; two or three half-paid women are put in charge to take orders, the stock is kept in a cheap back shop, and an Italian or Armenian can pick out your purchase; the entire cost, rent, service, carrier, is almost nothing when compared with Mr. Matteson's demand.

About how often must a concern go into bankruptcy which undertakes to compete, under our present land laws system, with such a commercial system? No man can do it.

Now let me show you just how the thing works. The writer bought very recently an article for domestic use, in one of these shops in the Hoppin Homestead building, for 95 cents. Precisely the same thing, on the very same day, was offered to everybody, on High (now Westminster street) for 60 cents; an advance of 50 per cent for the land corporation. At a later day, another article which the writer bought therein cost him exactly double the price for the same on Washington street. One hundred per cent for the corporation. This shows how the system rests upon the community. And this the agent of the corporation has the assurance to say is simply a four (4) per cent investment. If the corporation takes out of the community the city tax, \$5,279.00, and \$15,000.00 in rent, the estate would stand on the corporation books at a value of \$510,000; with the same tax and \$20,000 in rent, the corporation might value it \$630,000; with the same tax and \$25,000 in rent, the book value would be \$750,000; and this the corporation considers a 4 per cent investment on property which cost the builders for both land and building less than \$100,000. The only purpose of a government was, and is, for the security of life, and property, to men, and to men who make the property. But how does this system act as a security to the property of those who made or created it? On the contrary, is not this estate in the hands of a corporation a means of wrenching vast, and vaster, sums, through tenants, from the men who labor here. The value of the estate, in case it pays a rent of \$35,000, is \$900,000, in case you are satisfied

with a net 4 per cent income, which in a year may be 5 per cent. The cost of the building, say \$90,000, is all that the Hoppins contributed. The people contributed the balance, \$810,000. The Hoppins did nothing to make the earth more valuable than it was when they bought it.

The Shylock Case Compared With the Case of Zola.

Twenty years and more ago, there dwelt in Providence a young man by name Isaac P. Noyes. The young man studied architecture with Alpheus C. Morse, in the latter's office, in the Franklin House. Mr. Noyes left Providence and became a resident of Washington, D. C., where he now resides. He has published in the past several monographs of much interest, and which in method of treatment are characteristic specimens of the old Rhode Island individualistic manner of thinking. These are some of the subjects of Mr. Noyes's essays: The "Evolution of Style and Order in Architecture;" the "Peruvian Mummy;" the "Weather Maps and the Rain Makers;" the name "Shylock," a critical examination of the characters in the Merchant of Venice. BOOK NOTES cannot enter upon an analysis of the ideas set forth by Mr. Noyes in all of his monographs. But in one of them, "Shylock," there is a curious coincidence, in connection with a "modern instance" which BOOK NOTES will suggest. Mr. Noyes says (p 6) "Shylock is the only Jew (in the play) that contends against the strong power that seeks to oppress him." I confess that I had not before been impressed with such a thought. But it is not for that that this note is written. There is a singular circumstance which we will connect with it. The play relates how Shylock had loaned Bassanio 3000 ducats, upon the security of Anto-

nio's bond, which provided in case default in payment was made, a pound of flesh from nearest the heart. Default was made, Antonio could not pay, but in open court thrice three thousand ducats were tendered the Jew; but Shylock declined the money and claimed the forfeiture which the bond provided. Concerning this Mr. Noyes says (p 12) "there, at the close of the drama, Shakespeare would seem to reveal his ignorance of business affairs; but then it may be said that it is a poetical license to have Shylock insist upon the bond, by Antonio himself, and with his own money; a business man of to-day would not find it difficult to raise the bond in such a case; when the money value of the bond is presented, at least so far as a common sense transaction like this is concerned, that ends it—or would end it." Tarry a little, there's something else. Let us see how the present practice shows the ignorance of Shakespeare. The other day in Paris M. Zola was sentenced to imprisonment, and a fine amounting to 32,000 francs for his defending of Capt. Dreyfus. He fled and refused to pay the judgment, and levy was made upon "his art treasures and his splendid household goods." I now quote, from a Boston paper, a week old, "By every means within their power Octave Mirbeau and Mme. Zola tried to avert the sale, but their efforts were in vain; even on the very morning in question Mirbeau cleverly renewed his offer, nay his demand, to be *allowed to pay the judgment*, hoping by this means the sale would be postponed a little while at least, since such a renewal would entail going at once before Judge Drouon; alas they did indeed go before a judge, but he took only three minutes in which to refuse point blank to allow the claim of the gallant Mirbeau" to pay the money of the bond. The sale proceeded. There is an exact counterpart or sufficiently

exact in our own time, of the "poetical license" of Shakespeare in inventing the act of Shylock, but with this tremendous difference Shakespeare shows the Jew, Shylock, oppressing the Christian; in Paris, in 1898, it was the Christian oppressing the Jew.

The tremendous relative cost, per capita, of an evening school pupil, when compared with the day school pupils, is an indictment of the school management. A "day" pupil, with 915 hours per annum, costs .034 per hour; an "evening" pupil, with only 190 hours, costs .146. Thus the cost of the "evening" pupil is *twenty-five times as much* as a "day" pupil, while at the same time this costly child has comparatively nothing. No music, no drawing, no cooking, no Greek, no Latin, no French, no physics, no meteorology, no astronomy, no spelling (worth anything), no reading (worth anything), no higher mathematics, no mechanics, no German, no gymnastics, no grammar (only language lessons), no geometry, no trigonometry, no chemistry, no art (only the art of dissimulation), no anatomy, no physiology, no algebra, no calisthenics, no civics, no crystallography, no history, no literature, no intellectual philosophy, no moral science (only the law of love), no (know) nothing. These costly children never hear even the names of these elementary studies. No greater sham is now existing than this school system. When a child has been taught how to observe, how to investigate, and how to reason, into his hands have been placed the keys to unlock the doors of all knowledge. Let the child open whichever door he likes, and go upon his way. Now pupils are treated as tubs, into which tutors pour a little physiology, a little commercial geography, a little trigonometry; a few physics, some chemistry, a few business forms (chiefly

bankrupt petitions), a little astronomy, some psychology, a few ethics, some advanced algebra, some civics, and some economics, commercial law, a little Latin, some Greek, some French, a little German, and less English, &c., &c., &c.; in fact there is no end to the variety. As long as the tubstands, the dumping process continues; and when it is ended the pupil is, from age, and "big headedness," unfitted to enter upon the practical business of life.

When you look at it from a purely literary, and historical standpoint the *New England Magazine* as it is now conducted is admirable. It has a permanent value beyond any similar periodical now published in this country—broad as this statement is, it is true; while it is devoted especially to New England and New England history, New England places and men and schools and literature and industry furnish the themes which receive most prominent treatment; it defines its own peculiar province broadly, always looking backward to the Old England in which it had its roots, and to the greater New England beyond the Hudson.

This clipping comes from the *Shoe & Leather Reporter* for the 27th, Oct. 1898. My only purpose in reproducing it, is to declare that it is a downright libel—for which the S. & L. Reporter could be made to pay.

"A shoe manufacturer who failed a while ago, owing something like \$100,000, effected a clearance at 30c. on a dollar. He has since been producing shoes at prices which his neighbors, who pay in full, declare to be 5 per cent. below what they can make them for. He can go on in this way for some time with the capital with which his creditors have supplied him, and they can trust him meanwhile without being in danger of another defalcation, though

there must be an end of the practice of selling shoes below cost. Whether the result will be another suspension and another compromise, or a final liquidation, depends principally upon the inclination of the debtor. But the insolvent, whose case we have in mind, has no difficulty in purchasing on time all the material he wants."

A book of great interest to one distinguished Rhode Island family—the Greens—is about to be printed for private use, by subscription, at Dublin. It is the result of researches made in fundamental sources in the United Kingdom by Surgeon-Colonel J. J. Greene, who devoted upwards of six years in gathering the materials. These materials come from the British Museum, the Record Office, and the Probate Registry, Somerset House; and in Dublin, the Office of Arms, the Record Office, Registry of Deeds, the National Library, the Library of Trinity College, and from places where the family at times resided. The work is complete and includes many interesting particulars

about various members, and will be illustrated with over 150 engravings, copied from family miniatures and pictures, and also views of residences at one time occupied by members of the family. It will be printed provided a sufficient number of copies can be taken to pay the cost of printing. The form will be an imperial octavo, neatly bound in part vellum, with about 120 pages. The price will be 35 shillings, sterling. The writer will forward subscriptions, or they can be sent direct to Surgeon-Colonel Greene, 23 Herbert Place, Dublin, Ireland.

Dr. W. J. Holland, Chancellor of the Western University, well known as one of the foremost entomologists of this country, has written a work on butterflies, telling how they may be studied, and preserved; it will be published by the Doubleday & McClure Company. "The Butterfly Book," will contain 48 colored plates, photographed from specimens in Dr. Holland's collection—admittedly the finest in existence. The book will be written for popular use. One will not have to be a graduate of the Clark University (an institution wherein the freshmen, are Harvard graduates,) in order to read and understand it.

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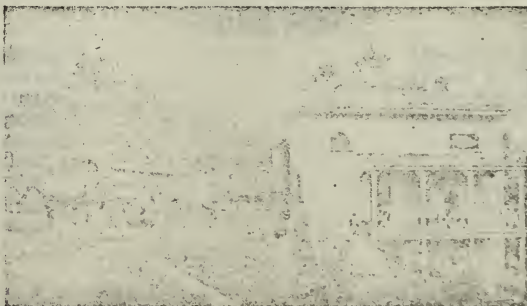
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SATURDAY, NOV. 26, 1893.

VOL. 15.
No. 24.

The Work of the Unconstitutional Committee on a Constitution.

For upwards of one hundred years the General Assembly of Rhode Island has been used by designing political men, seeking solely self-aggrandizement, to prevent the people of Rhode Island from the exercising of the sovereign power of fixing the fundamental law—a Constitution of Government. The latest attempt of this sort was the recent political packing of a *committee*, by one party, to form a constitution for the state, depriving the people of all part in the matter, a scheme which has just met with defeat; a result which it richly deserved. It failed to devise a method of appointing the Supreme Court judges, by taking the matter out of the powers granted to the Assembly; but it preserved the old corrupt plan and made it worse by depriving the General Assembly of the power save under great difficulties of changing the personnel of the court; a bare majority in grand committee could be used by a bad man to be made a Judge; but it was made to take three-fifths of each house acting separately to get a corrupt political Judge out. The committee left it just as easy for a bad man to get in, but in-

creased the difficulty ten fold of getting him out. It failed to stop the General Assembly from being packed to elect Governors or Lieutenant Governors as has been repeatedly done. Gov. Henry Lippitt twice obtained the office in this way, having been both times defeated by the people. The selection of these officers should be solely the act of the people. It failed in separating *absolutely* the three powers of government, the legislative, the judicial and the executive, defining each, and making each power a check upon the other and each directly responsible to the people. It failed to devise an equitable and elastic system of representation, in order that *equal* representation may be secured and continued. It failed in these essential qualities for the reason that the committee was constructed in order to prevent the accomplishment of these reforms; it gave a few minor reforms, but they were small in comparison with those above written; and it prevented the people for twelve years more from even attempting to change them. It gave the General Assembly the power to give the political franchise to those who would vote for the dominant party; the General Assembly could fix terms and conditions, which would deprive its political oppo-

nents from the power of opposing; this alone should have defeated it. It placed in the hands of the Chief Justice the power to appoint a court, a thing which has been long complained of by parties litigant. The City of Providence registered on the 1st of January, 1898, more than 26,000 registry tax voters; and 7200 real estate voters; and 3101 personal property voters. This proposed constitution wiped out in all the cities, all the registry voters so far as city councils are concerned. In Providence 26,000 men were politically extinguished; a registry voter who voted for this constitution voted to destroy his right to ever vote again on these questions of City Government; it was political suicide. The defeat was a serious one, for the constitution; but the misleading figures of the newspapers do not tell quite how serious. Observe how they varied; *News*—For, 17,394; against, 13,394; defective, 9136; lacked, 1082. *Journal*—For, 17,360; against, 13,498; defective, 9460; lacked, 1133. *Telegram*—For, 17,043; against, 13,273; defective, 1117; lacked, 1146. The Secretary of State has given BOOK NOTES the exact count, thus: For, 17,360; against, 13,510; defective, 9632. With the "reject" vote standing as it did, there would have been required 2907 more "approve" votes to have carried the constitution. The vote of 13,510 for rejection required a vote of 20,266 for approval in order to secure the necessary three-fifths.

In order to obtain the result claimed by the newspapers the number lacking for "approval" must be taken from the votes cast to "reject" and transferred to the "approve" column. The manipulation of voters on these constitutional matters here during the past ten years is a suggestive object lesson; why will the people not take heed? In 1886 the Prohibitory amendment was voted *in*,

the vote stood for, 15,113, against, 9230. In 1889, without any attempt at enforcement, actual attempt, I mean, it was voted *out*; the vote stood, for, 28,315, against, 9956. The largest corruption fund was sent into Rhode Island to buy votes that was ever known here, and we have seen some pretty large stacks of bank bills on election days. Such a result in a matter of fundamental law is a disgrace to men in a government of the people, by the people. Something of the same kind appears in this latest instance. In 1888 on the matter of the *extension* of Suffrage, the vote stood, for, 20,068; against, 12,193; in 1898 for the *restriction* of suffrage the vote stood, for, 17,360, against, 13,510, and this result is after half a century of struggles to extend the suffrage. Such situations are a disgrace to men who use such a franchise. But there is a still worse exhibit. The total vote cast upon the question of adoption stood at 40,502; of this total, 9632 were cast out by the counters, on the ground that they were defective; after a century, and more, of political freedom nearly one-fourth of the voters do not know enough to properly mark a ballot. To have published this note before the election would have resulted in the adoption of the proposed constitution, now happily overthrown; it was the work of (not the people) but of a committee consisting of Mr. S. W. K. Allen of East Greenwich, together with some gentlemen from this city. For this latest attempt to deprive them of their political rights, the people were made to pay about \$25,000.

The value of human testimony is curiously illustrated in the trial, conviction and sentence of one McGunnigle in Pennsylvania for burglary. Eight witnesses swore to the seeing of McGunnigle entering a dwelling in the

night time. He was here in the insane department of the Rhode Island State Prison at the time of the committal of the burglary. A case once happened with the writer in which were interested five individuals, to wit, a boy; Abraham Payne; the Hon. John P. Knowles; Owen Mason; and the writer; myself alone now living. No wrong was done, but it showed the valueless character of human testimony, yet neither of us would have willingly injured the other.

The assault upon those who threw all the human filth which they could gather, into the waters of the Pawtuxet river, water which we who live in Providence are forced to drink, or die from thirst, will not be soon forgotten by those who have read these BOOK NOTES. So, too, we have advocated, even urged, the construction of some system of common filtration. Nothing more than junketing tours has yet resulted so far as the city government is concerned. The bed of the Pawtuxet has been the recipient of all the excrement, and all the disease laden sewers of every manufacturing company, or village, upon the stream since the days when such things were first constructed, but for one moment consider the conditions which charge the waters which you drink. This is only preliminary to telling you of a thing which befell me. I bought a *Ralston New Process Still* and went at work to find out how it would work; and now, after only ten days, I am content that the mills on the Banks of the Pawtuxet can put whatever they wish into the water, and as long as they wish, I can take it all out again and have for my family an inestimable blessing now for the first time possible, since I have had a family, absolutely pure water and no skinching either, but enough for *all* purposes—drinking, cooking, etc.—and with no additional cost, just using the

kitchen fire, which we have to use anyway. The makers of this unlimited blessing say "*the water is soft and pleasing to the taste.*" I tell you that that is a positively true statement. These gentlemen also tell you that the "*Ralston Still* filters, boils, sterilizes, and aerates the water in one operation," every word of which BOOK NOTES tells you is true. A child can "run" the machine; a child can keep it clean; anybody who can work a coffee pot can "run" this still, and you can have what you never yet have had, a drink (a hundred drinks in case you wish them) of pure water. This invaluable addition to our means of domestic, and healthful, comfort is advertised in this BOOK NOTE.

A person dwelling in England, by name Harold Frederic, died, he believing in the curative theory of Christian Science employed two persons who practiced that theory, to assist him; he died; and thus comes from London this despatch:

LONDON, Wednesday.—Miss Kate Lyon, a member of the household of Mr. Harold Frederic, who died on October 19, at Kenley, and Mrs. Athalie Mills, the Christian Scientist who attended Mr. Frederic and against whom a verdict of manslaughter was returned by a coroner's jury yesterday, were arraigned in the Police Court at Kenley to-day on this charge, and were remanded for a week. They were admitted to bail.

Things are coming to a pretty pass. I am sick; I employ Dr. Knight; he "practices" upon me; I die; he is arrested for manslaughter, because he is a Homeopath, and Dr. Swarts, vicegerent of God on earth, knows exactly what in his pharmacopœia would have ended my troubles, Iopomea, Batatas, taken catapotium. In this city within a year have died two persons. Eighteen

"regular" physicians "practiced" upon one of these persons, without ever having discovered the actual disease; the nineteenth acknowledged that he could not tell, without a surgical exploration; in the other case the person was treated for years for a disease which the person never had; the knife at last disclosed the fatal nature of the disease, and the folly of all the regular practice upon the patient. Now, if you propose punishing Christian Scientists when they fail to cure, you shall apply the same law to yourselves; let every "regular" be hanged who fails to diagnose truly, and to apply what all other "regulars" regard as the "specific" remedies. It is time that the medical profession was brought to a sense of its absurdities. Cornerings by trusts seems sufficiently vile to suit any poor man. It robs him of his food, his home, and his clothes; but the cornering of the right to endeavor to restore the sick to health, kicks the beam. It takes all that the other trusts have left—*life itself*.

The Monthly Bulletin of the Rhode Island Bureau of Industrial Statistics, states that the "information submitted is taken from United States and European government reports, but a careful examination shows not a single word about any American industrial matter; while pauperism, emigration, trade disputes, wage clippings, and such things are set forth page for page. Mr. Tiepke in speaking of wages says "the net result was an increase estimated at 7d per head." He speaks of the men and women who work just as he would of cattle or asses. That is not good politics, Mr. Tiepke.

Prof. Frank G. Bates, now of Alfred University, but a citizen of Rhode Island, has written a monograph on the *Action of Rhode Island in the Formation*

of the Union. It was written in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, in the Faculty of Political Science, of Columbia University. The essay is an octavo volume of 220 pages, covering elaborately a subject which has before this been lightly touched. BOOK NOTES will, after careful examination, describe the work from its historical aspect.

There came to BOOK NOTES a very beautiful book entitled *Hand and Brain*. It is a symposium of Essays on Socialism, six in number, by the following writers: William Morris, on the Socialist Idea in Art; the Re-occupation of the Land, by Alfred Russel Wallace; on Socialism in Literature, by Henry S. Salt; on National Inequality, by Grant Allen; on the Illustrations of Socialism, by Bernard Shaw; on the Transitions to Freedom, by Edward Carpenter—all men who stand very high among contemporary English writers. The book comes from the Roycroft Press, East Aurora, N. Y., and bears the customary marks of skill and beauty which books from this press always bear. BOOK NOTES will not now enter upon a discussion of the principles set forth by these men, but sometime it will make heavy drafts upon them.

In New York City the amount of money asked by the School Committee has been cut down millions (actually millions) of dollars. In the item of salaries the cut was \$1,771,640.78 from the amount asked. In giving the details the *New York Herald* says: The result of all this must, of course, be economy. New schedules of salaries, new "fads and notions," as the Mayor calls them, must be set aside, and careful managing must come in to make the money go as far as possible unless the estimates were far beyond what is really

needed. No margin for extras is allowed. Rigid economy is the path laid out. Janitors were clipped \$43,365 70; and useless clerks and superintendents (supervisors) were all clipped, or cut off entirely.

The *Nation* has published for years, in each issue, a list of all books of consequence published in the preceeding week. The issue for November 17 has thirteen books—just one month before Christmas—three of them are by English publishers, not American books at all; ten only were American, of which number six were novels; and not any book in nominal retail price over \$1.50. To such an ignominious depth has the book trade descended, solely by adverse legislation.

The lien case, *Chace v. Pidge*, decided by the Appellate Court, has established a principle which must be observed by those who buy real estate. Pidge owned real estate in August, 1897. He employed Chace to make some re-

pairs. Pidge, before the expiration of the six months in which a lien could be enforced, sold the estate to one Purdy. When Purdy bought the estate no lien had been laid in the courts, so that neither Purdy, the buyer, nor the lawyer who examined the title, could discover this cloud. Nevertheless Pidge had not paid his debt to Chace, and now it is a valid lien upon Purdy's estate.

BOOK NOTES records with sorrow the death of the *Atlantic Medical Weekly*. With the first of October it ceased to be issued. It was bright, up-to-date, without fads, and possibly as forward in the presentation of advanced thought as it is consistent with the medical profession.

The subscription list for BOOK NOTES has come to it without any solicitation and beyond all comparison, it is, in the matter of quality, superior to anything of the kind in Rhode Island. Fifteen new names has come to it within the past four weeks.

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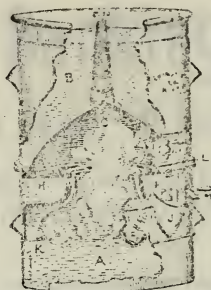
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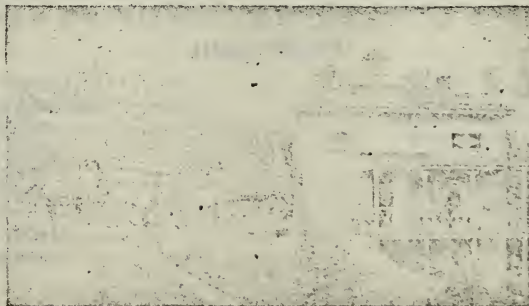
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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

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SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 23.

There came in the Newport *Herald* a few days since, an editorial entitled "Curing by Cant." It was in opposition to what is now commonly called Christian Science. The writer of this note is neither a believer in this "science," nor is he a believer in that "regular science," the evolutions of which have been revolutions. But there are things in this editorial which BOOK NOTES will consider. First, it is founded upon another newspaper editorial, to wit, the New York *Times*, and the *Times* editorial was founded upon a "news" dispatch which appeared first in the New York *Herald*. But in the Newport *Herald* reproduction of this dispatch it has been garbled—we do not say who garbled it, but some one did—all that part which stated that Harold Frederic had first been treated, with no success, by "regular" medical men, and then called the "Mills woman," as the *Times* stigmatizes her, is omitted. Frederic had *first consulted* the regular scientists, who had failed to relieve him, then called the "Mills woman," as the *Times* calls the lady. There is precisely the same foundation for this eliminated portion that there is for that which these papers printed and then assailed. While in the case of the truth of the last part, the case against the

"Mills woman" goes, just as it ought to go, to smash, in fact before I could get this note in type the case against the two ladies, went to smash; it was a disgrace to all those who instigated it. There are two points in these editorials which really deserve notice. This is one of them. The legislature of Massachusetts refused last winter to pass a law to prevent the "graduates" of Christian Science from (as the *Times* brutally but perhaps truthfully puts it) 'practicing their profession and incidentally murdering their patients.' The legal definition of murder is the act of killing a human being by another human being with malice prepense, which means with a set purpose designed or planned before it is put into execution. That is murder, and the physicians who execute such schemes must be declared guilty of "murdering their patients." But is that what a Christian Scientist does? Did the "Mills woman" deliberately enter upon a plan to kill Harold Frederic? There can be no act without action. It was *lack of action* in which lies the whole essence of the complaint both by the *Times* and the *Herald*. These papers complain of a lack of action, and then assert that this lack of action was an act of murder. And I

guilty of manslaughter because I do not jump into the sea to save someone from drowning? Which is most like the act of murder, the work of a man with his knives and poisonous drugs crammed into a human being, or the setting of mental faculties at work to effect a cure?

There are a lot of "religious" in this world who wish to ram their particular religion by the aid of the law down my throat whether I think it right or wrong; there are a lot of physicians also who wish to ram with the aid of the law their drugs down my throat whether I wish or do not wish them. It is time that the law "let up" on this outrageous use of itself.

To call it "protecting" labor, the making of a Dingley duty on wool, whereby the mill owner scoops \$1,500,000 out of the people, giving them nothing whatever for it; while the wages of the laborers are repeatedly clipped, is just like calling that thing an "honest" dollar which robs me of all my savings in one hour of time; or turns you from under the roof of the home for which you had half paid, giving it to the money-lender. For such conditions the *Springfield Republican* says "we are indebted to the long-continued fall in prices, which is the primary cause, having the effect of impairing capitalized values". Precisely, and the *Journal of Commerce*, N. Y., says "this has resulted in delivering the consumer, (that is myself) into the hands of monopolistic greed". Whether it is monometalism, landlordism, protection, or any other kind of human slavery, the principle is the same; and upon it let me show you what Abraham Lincoln once said:

"It is the eternal struggle between these two principles—right and wrong—throughout the world they are the two principles that have stood face to face from the beginning of time, and

will ever continue to struggle; the one is the common right of humanity, the other the divine right of kings. It is the same principle in whatever form it develops itself; it is the same spirit that says: 'You work and toil, and earn bread, and I'll eat it.' No matter in what shape it comes, whether from the mouth of a king who seeks to bestride the people of his nation and live by the fruit of their labor, or from one race of men as an apology for enslaving another race (of laborers), it is the same tyrannical principles.—Abraham Lincoln's speech at Alton, 1858. (*Lincoln and Douglas Debates*, p. 234.)

"In our own country" (England) says Mr. Wallace, "the annual product of labor, from which the whole expenditure of the people necessarily comes is estimated at 1350 millions sterling (in United States money 6750 millions of dollars); and this money is so unequally divided that one million of rich men receive more than twice as much of it as the 26 millions which constitute the laboring class, and which earned every penny of it. In the United States the inequality is still greater, there being there 4047 families of the rich who own about five times as much property as the 6,599,796 families of the poor." In England every man and woman who does no work gets out of the product of labor, \$5000 while the actual worker gets \$67.33.—From the *Wonderful Century*, by Wallace.

Last year Charles Dana Gibson illustrated "The People of Dickens" for *The Ladies' Home Journal*. The pictures were so successful that this year, and during next year, W. L. Taylor, the New England artist who has made such rapid strides in his art, will illustrate "The People of Longfellow"—also for *The Ladies' Home Journal*. The poems selected are "The Psalm of Life,"

"Hiawatha," "Evangeline," "The Courtship of Miles Standish," "The Children's Hour," "The Village Blacksmith," and others.

In the *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for December the editor reviews the November elections, the progress of our peace negotiations with Spain, and other matters of national and international moment. Some very suggestive and interesting cartoons from recent issues of the Spanish journals are reproduced.

The report of the School Committee for 1896-7 contains the items Salary of Truant officer \$1500; Salary of clerk of Truant officer \$520, but no names of persons holding these offices appear in these Reports. What was done with this \$2020.00.

The December *Century* has a paper entitled, "The Many-sided Franklin," by P. L. Ford, in which are discussed Franklin's physique, his illnesses, and his medical theories. The following clipping throws a bright light on the course of the regular medical practice, in the refusal to give even a drink of water to a fever stricken patient, and which even within my own time existed.

"If his constitutional and muscular vigor enabled him thus to tax his body, it did not save him from the illnesses his parents had escaped. In 1727, so he states, 'when I was just pass'd my twenty-first year, I was taken ill. My distemper, was a pleurisy which very nearly carried me off. I suffered a great deal, gave up the point in my own mind and was rather disappointed when I found myself recovering, regretting, in some degree, that I must sometime or other, have all that disagreeable work to do over.'" In 1735 he had a second

attack of this complaint, of so serious a character that the left lung suppurated. Prior to these two attacks he had avoided an illness by "having read somewhere that cold water, drank plentifully, was good for a fever," and when "in the evening I found myself very feverish, I followed the prescription, sweat plentifully most of the night, and the next morning was well again." This is the more interesting since for many years afterward the usual treatment for fevers involved the entire denial of water to the sufferer."

It is such practice as this, which makes us look upon the "regulars" as the incarnation of entrenched error.

The *Journal* of Dec. 5th has a Sensational Development in regard to the School Fund of the State showing a loss of over \$106,000 Brought about by the Shrinkage in Bank Stocks. This is the first outcome from the article in *Book Notes* on the City Banks of Oct. 18.

Some weeks before his death, Mr. Harold Frederic finished the book on which he had been at work for months.

This last and notable novel is the only manuscript which he felt, far eclipses in power any of his earlier stories. Written when his genius had fully matured, he put the best of himself into "The Market-Place," as the novel is called; it is destined to be the book of the year. For marvelous portrayal, analysis of character; vigor of style, and the brilliance and faithfulness of its pictures, it is a novel among novels.

The story has to do with the fortunes of a daring speculator, and, incidentally, with the corruption existing among the titled directors of English companies. Though written before the Hooley disclosures, it seems almost a prophecy of this *cause celebre*. Mr. Frederic's pic-

tures of English society and English country life are the best and most convincing that have been recently given to us by a novelist.

"The Market-Place" has been secured by THE SATURDAY EVENING POST, of Philadelphia, and will appear serially in that weekly, beginning in an early issue.

The December issue of the NEW ENGLAND MAGAZINE appears in a special holiday cover with a varied and attractive table of contents. The frontispiece of the magazine, a reproduction from a religious painting by an Italian artist, is suggestive of the Christmas season. It is *Fra Angelico*.

The holiday number of the *Woman's Home Companion* is a Christmas gift in itself, with its wealth of short and long stories appropriate to the season.

There has been running through the *Saturday Evening Post* for several weeks a story entitled *The Professor's Daughter*, by Anna Farquhar the scene of which is laid in Rhode Island, in what we call the South County. Nothing finer in the way of the character sketching of these South County people, has ever been written, yet it has been often attempted. It is an ideal *local* picture, which possesses *general* interest.

The Boston *Transcript* prints the resolutions passed in January, 1845, by the R. I. General Assembly against the constitutionality of the admission of Texas into the Union. The purpose of the *Transcript* is to show the antagonism of the dominant political party in the Assembly to what is now called "Imperialism." The vote in the House stood 45 to 10. The anti-Dorr party appeared on constitutional grounds solely the admission of Texas. Were they right or wrong; would the *Transcript* today act as the R. I. General Assembly acted in 1845? well hardly; but how does the *Transcript* know today that it is behaving any more sensibly; one of the keenest political minds in Rhode Island, then or now, Mr. Fenner Brown, told his colleagues "to make the Resolutions strong; the stronger the better; for Rhode Island would make herself ridiculous all over the world by passing a resolution that it was not con-

stitutional to annex Texas," and the event has proved than Mr. Brown was right. The temptation to enter on this bit of political history is very great, but space is precious in these little BOOK NOTES.

One Nathan C. Bedell died and left an estate in Elmwood, on which was a mortgage for \$9000 which claim had from defaulted interest, and payment of taxes by the mortgagee been somewhat increased in amount; the estate was taxed on a valuation of \$17000. It was foreclosed, and sold by the mortgagee to the mortgagee; the highest bid was \$8500. Now just compare such a situation, with the Turk's Head Estate, or the Hoppin Homestead Estate, recently described in these BOOK NOTES.

Mr. H. H. Powers, Ph. D., is a Professor of Economics at the Leland Stanford, Jr., University. In a paper written by this gentleman occurs this: "It needs no prophet to foretell the end of the man, or native whose susceptibilities are not servants of his interests." Perhaps the word susceptibilities, as used by this learned teacher, has no meaning; but in case it means sensibility, as it sometimes does, what kind of morals is the gentleman teaching? Suppose he were to teach "It needs no prophet to foretell the end of the man or nation, whose susceptibilities (to integrity, for instance) are not the servants of his (pecuniary) interests," and yet such a man is a teacher in a university, and his work is published by the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

The "*Philippine Islands and their People*," is the name of a book recently issued by D. C. Worcester, a professor; in this book this paragraph appears:

"In many parts of the Philippines nature has done so much for the people that they have little trouble in obtaining food, clothing and shelter. What more do they require? Why should one work and accumulate money, only to be robbed of it. Their logic is unanswerable under present conditions."

How differently are we, who dwell in this favored land. America, where nature has done so much for—those whom the laws favor, and who buy the law-makers, and the laws as well? How

differently are we situated? The cornering of money by destroying one-half of it; laws assisting individuals to seize the value which all of us give to the lands; laws "protecting" us out of millions of hard earned dollars, and giving it for absolutely nothing to the manufacturers who bought the legislature into office. Is there any man living who thinks that such things will be long tolerated. We killed two millions of white men in order to give black men a right to possess their own children. Will these same white men long submit to schemes which make slaves of thousands, and of their children as well. The Spaniards in Spain robbed the poor Islanders. The banker who holds the gold, the mill owner who buys tariffs, the landlords who seize the land in cities, are the robbers here.

The Constitution of the Committee has now to be reconstructed; it will become an Act in Amendment of an Act. The idea of a man taking the trouble to register, then paying a dollar in order to vote for the adoption of a constitution which deprives him from ever casting another vote, as was done by every registered voter here in the recent election, is certainly comical.

But look at the position of the Su-

preme Court; in 1843 it held that no constitution framed by the people, and adopted by them, where the convention was not called by the General Assembly, possessed any validity; in 1883, the same court held that the General Assembly had no constitutional right to call a convention. It was heads we win, tails you lose.

Chief Justice Job Durfee of the court of 1843, sent Dorr to State Prison for life. Chief Justice Thomas Durfee, of the court of 1883, actually sat in a convention called by the General Assembly in 1898—a body which as a judge he had declared to be unconstitutional.

School Committee matters in Chicago appear to be as practically rotten as they have long been here in Providence. Look at the men at the "head" of the School Committee, and then tax yourselves half a million more money.

The Semitic jew or arab, editor of the *Journal* continues the publication of its festering lies concerning the Rev. Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews.

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Pouchot's Late War in North America. 1755-60. Roxbury 1866 2v. 200 copies printed. This no. 31. . . . \$3.75
Dring's Jersey Prison Ship. 4to 100 copies printed, this no 99 (Providence 1865). . . . \$4.50
Brown University Centennial Celebration 1864. 4to Large paper. 50 copies printed. Providence 1865. . . \$4.50
North Providence Centennial 1865. 4to Large paper, 50 copies. . . \$2.50
St Paul's Church, 50th Anniversary. 4to 35 copies Large paper Pawtucket 1868. . . . \$1.25
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Drake's (S. G.) Founders of New England. 4to 3rd Ed. Boston 1865, 75 copies printed. This no. 74. . . \$2.50
Order Book of Capt. Leonard Bleeker 1779. N. Y. 1865. No. 19. . . \$2.00
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Edward Everett, Memorial. 4to. Boston, 1865. 75 copies printed. . . \$2.00
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SATURDAY, DEC. 24, 1898.

VOL. 15.
No. 26.

The Awful Libel of the Appellate Court Judges by the Providence Journal.

Three articles have been recently printed by the *Journal* concerning three divorce cases either decided or now pending before the Rhode Island Courts. The plaintiffs, all women, were among the most decent and respectable among us. But the libel upon the Appellate Judges was positively malignant; on December 9th was used this displayed heading:

SECRET DIVORCES

Granted by Rhode Island
Courts, etc., etc.

Stung by the outrageous charges, one of these judges, Horatio Rogers, addressed a letter to the editor of the *Journal* from which the following clippings are taken: "The sensational article, to characterize it by a no stronger term, in last Friday's *Bulletin*, entitled '*Secret Divorces Granted in Rhode Island Courts to Fashionable New Yorkers*,' contained several glaring untruths, which do great injustice to the Court; and the same is true, though in a much less degree, as to the article in both last Saturday's *Journal* and last Saturday's

Bulletin, entitled '*Mecca for Divorces*,' and containing in its headlines this allegation, "Great secrecy has surrounded the trials and decrees." "I sat alone in the Matier case, and also in the Teall case; I also sat with two other judges in the Brokaw case, the only three cases mentioned in the articles referred to."

"The Brokaw case was tried in the regular court room of the full Appellate Division at 3 p. m. of a regular court day. * * * The Matier case was heard by me at 3.30 p. m. in the large court room of the Appellate Division, open to all comers. * * * The Teall case was assigned by me in open court at the regular call of the motions calendar."

"All the allegations and insinuations in your sensational articles that the Judges have secretly or privately heard any divorce cases * * * I believe to be false, and I unqualifiedly brand them as such as to any divorce cases in which I have sat."

"The courts of this state are free and open to all comers—seats are provided for reporters of the press when they see fit to attend."

Nothing in the annals of Rhode Island journalism is at all comparable to that for severity—and yet it is not half as

vere enough. The Editor of the *Journal* deserves to be sent to state prison for a year for this outrage. This is the more desirable from the manner in which the letter from Judge Rogers' was presented, with this lying heading:

EASY DIVORCES.

Judge Rogers Says That Amendment of the Laws Would Make Work of Justice More Congenial.

To the Editor of the Journal:

while opposite was an unmitigated lie concerning it with this display, not one word of which was true:

NEW YORK DIVORCES.

Public Sentiment Against Practice Which Seems to be Growing.

MUCH COMMENT CREATED BY THE CITING OF RECENT INSTANCES.

Efforts of Attorneys and Others to Keep Results of Court Proceedings Secret.

THE STATE APPARENTLY GAINING AN UNENVIABLE REPUTATION.

New York Newspapers are Evidently Disposed to View Rhode Island as the Most Convenient Place in the Country for Residents of That City to Rid Themselves of Marital Ties.—General Belief that the Impression Should be Removed.

There is absolutely no truth whatever in all those lines; no comment, no public sentiment, no unenviable reputation; but there is a universal sentiment among thinking men that the *Journal*

should be held up in such wild and reckless charges against the Appellate Court, every judge of whom I know as an upright judge, and above all, as honest men in their daily lives. If this thing can be done with impunity by this newspaper, all respect for these judges will cease. Either this Editor knows the legal rights and violated them with malice, or knowing nothing is unfit for his business, a positive danger to the peace of the State.

The opinions held in BOOK NOTES concerning the legal prosecutions of those who practice Christian Science, are the law of Rhode Island as it is laid down by the Appellate Court here; and this dispatch from London shows the same soundness in the centre of the judicial system in England:

LONDON, Wednesday.—At the Old Bailey (Central Criminal Court) to-day the Treasury officials declined to prosecute Kate Lyon and Mrs. Mills in connection with the death of Harold Frederic, the American newspaper correspondent, and the defendants were discharged from custody.

In the light of these decisions and with plain common sense read this from the Albany "*Law*" *Journal*, a recognized legal periodical, urging the legal forcing of men to submit to "regular" medical treatment, whether men wish to do so or not. Look at such law as this in a "law" journal: "If to commit suicide may be declared a crime, then trusting to Christian Science may be a species of semi-suicide, and preventable or punishable by law." Such utter nonsense in a "law" journal is disgusting. Suppose I half kill myself by hard work, is it semi-suicide, and I am liable, or ought to be, according to this "*Law*" *Journal*. Then read this from the *Spectator* (London, 12th September) from an article on the Harold Frederic

"murderesses," entitled "Christian Science and Liberty," wherein it sees "with grave concern" certain extracts from a book called *Science and Health*, which it calls "grotesque perversions of faith and travesties of science," and which it learns "finds increasing acceptance among people in various classes in England." The *Spectator* would be in the same shocking condition had it confronted extracts from *Cullen's Practice of Medicine*. But what can be said of such rank nonsense as this from this same *Spectator*: "We apprehend that orthodox practitioners generally if not invariably believe that there is an appreciable number of cases in which persons treated by homeopathic doctors die who would recover if they were in the hands of allopathic doctors."

There is no single thing at No. 73, where the writer dwells, which is such a comfort and such a delight as the wood fire, in the old "Fire Place" around which we all sit. So, when I saw a beautiful oblong quarto, entitled "The Open Hearth," I ventured to send for a sample copy. This sample copy fiend is generally a positive nuisance. BOOK NOTES has endured no end of such inflictions. So, when a little later Fiske, Homes & Co., or the Boston Fire Brick Co., asked me what I was going to do about it, I told them nothing, that is nothing but that which I am now doing, telling people of the beautiful mantels which might be made, in fact are made, by these men from the bricks and terra cotta forms which they manufacture. The designs (there are 28 of them) are some of them extremely beautiful. They will make any "living" room beautiful, and so homelike, and they cost all the way from \$17.50 to \$125.00, which is "low" enough for the poor, and "high" enough for the rich, and good for both. There, Messrs. Fiske,

Homes & Co., BOOK NOTES has given you a *quid pro quo* for your Beautiful Catalogue.

There is now pending in the City Council an ordinance regulating Peddlers and Dealers in certain wares and merchandise. As it is now written this ordinance is a positive nuisance. Not a farmer can bring into Providence a dozen of eggs for sale, nor any of his farm products without subjecting himself to a fine of from \$10 to \$20. Instead of fining such a man, he ought to be paid a bounty for bringing in fresh food. In the case of my milkwoman she will require positively two licenses or a fine of \$20, and in case she sells me a dozen ears of corn she must have an *additional* license, which costs her \$50. Is there no sense of honor or of justice left among men? Under this "admirable" law the owner of a milk wagon must take out a \$50 license; and in case he employs a man to drive it, the driver must have a special license "in his own name" and not transferable. There is a woman and her brother, named Waterman, who peddle milk. The father of both owns the "route," his children deliver the milk. Three licenses are necessary for this family. From certain allegations recently made it seems probable that swindling milk dealers have at last obtained control of the inspection of milk in this city. Then, with such an ordinance as is proposed the absolute control of all the milk used in Providence will pass into the control of men, some of them already convicted.

The Trading Stamp—a skin game—ought to be suppressed by a statute, just as it is done in Massachusetts. Why permit these men to skin 5 per cent from every sale made by the already ruined dealers here. Unite—go to the General Assembly a month hence

and get a law passed to smash the outrage. Enormous numbers of these stamps are never redeemed at all, in anything, and those that are redeemed do not bring the owners of them 50 cents on the dollar. It is an utter abomination.

Mr. A. Russell Wallace in his terribly destructive argument against Vaccination, entitled "Vaccination a Delusion," notes the "remarkable fact that a large portion of the medical profession accepted as proved that vaccination protected against a subsequent inoculation of small pox." Mr. Wallace says: "A century ago was, as regards the majority of the medical profession, a pre-scientific age; nothing proves this more clearly than the absence of any systematic 'control' experiments, and the extreme haste with which some of the heads of the profession expressed their belief in the *lifelong* protection against small pox afforded by vaccination *only four years* after the discovery had been announced." (p. 218) Mr. Wallace describes a "control" experiment (p. 217) as one "made by inoculating at the same time and in exactly the same way two groups of persons of similar age, constitution and health, the one group having been vaccinated, the other not, and none of them having had small pox." * * * Such an experiment "was never done in the early days of vaccination, and it appears never to have been done to this day." (p. 217) Almost precisely such an experiment was made by the Boston Board of Health in 1802; an account of it was published in BOOK NOTES, Vol. 14, No. 4.

There came to BOOK NOTES all the way from Denver a little book entitled *Temple Talks*. It consists of fifteen of these *Talks*; they are by the Rev. Myron W. Reed, who ministers to a con-

gregation in Denver called the Broadway Temple Association, a non-sectarian organization having neither creed, nor constitution, nor by-laws, nor any ecclesiastical association or connection whatever—apparently a collection of men and women quite nearly in a state of nature. A mere list of the titles or subjects of some of these talks will indicate their character, to wit, the Evolution of the Tramp, a Return to Nature, Socialism, Suicide, Poetic Justice, the Literature Power, Wendell Phillips, the Ninety and Nine, &c.—but no poor words of mine can give you the slightest idea of the admirable freedom, the invigorating vigor, the indomitable courage, the purity of thought and the force of illustration, which this author has thrown into them. They breathe the pure socialistic spirit which will give birth to the coming century. Brimful of crisp crystalizations, nothing comparable to them has appeared since the palmy days of Henry Ward Beecher; in fact in reading them Beecher is instantly and constantly in presence. It is a small but inexpensive book, beautifully published by the Bowen-Merrill Company of Indianapolis and Kansas City. One of the Talks, that about Emma Abbott, filled our eyes with tears, as we sat around the Open Fire Place, while one of us read it aloud to all of us. It was about a woman, but it was manly; a picture of weakness, and yet so strong that every woman in the land would be strengthened by the reading of it

The Editor of the *Journal* must be in an ecstasy of delight at the publication of these words from Chicago. "The entire system in the public schools of Chicago is likely to be revised as a result of the Board of Education's action in relieving Superintendent Andrews."

"Dr. Andrews is authorized to amend all rules relating to the government of the educational department, and is to report amendments for maintaining discipline among teachers and for the welfare of the system."

Now why has not the *Journal* the manliness to print this fact just as prominently as it printed the first lie sent out from Chicago concerning Dr. Andrews and his being fired from Chicago just as he was fired from Brown University.

A woman in Boston borrowed a hundred dollars from the *Loan Fund Company* at 5 per cent a month. After two years of this interest and the payment of all save \$11.47 of the principal, the "Loan Company" seized the property. The woman had the nerve and a sufficiently honest lawyer to take her case to the Massachusetts Supreme Court, where on the 16th inst. the Chief Justice used this language to the counsel for the money lenders:

"Upon the facts as they appear in this case, your clients are the most out-

rageously unjust persons I ever saw in their dealings with their customers. If the law is in their favor we must find it so, of course, but they cannot expect any favor from me in the interpretation of the facts."

Why not give the Rhode Island courts an opportunity to talk like that?

He who has a copy of *Shaler and Davis on Glaciers*, folio, 1881, published by Osgood & Co., Boston, can find a buyer by a note to BOOK NOTES.

The steamship *All'ance* came from Panama to New York. She was held at Quarantine, five of the crew being sick with malarial fever. The sick were sent to Swinburne Island for treatment—the vessel disinfected and released. Those passengers who were not sick were not confined to the ship until they were all sick or dead, as was the case here with Wackerling's children, and his family, too, by the Secretary of the State Board of Health—without the slightest warrant in law nor in common sense.

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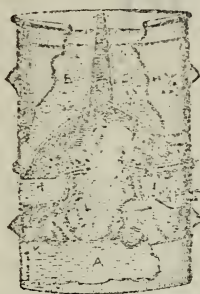
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(VOL. XVI. 66)

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PROVIDENCE:

SIDNEY S. RIDER.

1899.



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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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SATURDAY, JAN. 7, 1899.

VOL. 16.
No. 1.

Mr. Elbert Hubbard, him who gave a local habitation and a name to the Roycroft Printing Shop, and then added fame to the institution, has been making some "Little Journeys to the Homes of Famous Women," in France and England. The gentleman seems to have taken advantage of the absence of the "famous women" at the time of his visits, and no bound seems to have been set to his plain utterances concerning what he saw at these homes, or what he thought of the absent occupants; but these famous women had long ceased to be occupants, for they were Mary Wollstonecraft, Mary Lamb, Elizabeth Fry, Charlotte Bronte, Jane Austen, and such like people. Each of these women Mr. Hubbard has described in a very pretty little paper-covered portion of a book (I do not wish to use the word "pamphlet," and *brochure* is unpardonable.) The only one of these little ten cent publications which BOOK NOTES has ever seen is that about Jane Austen, who wrote "Sense and Sensibility," and that is just what Elbert Hubbard is trying himself to write. There has been no limit, or scarcely any limit, to the number of things written about Jane Austen, but among them all there is not one at all equal to this, the latest of them. It is

written from this "pinnacle" which we clip from the book itself: "And so I sing the praises of the average woman, the woman who does her work, who is willing to be unknown, who is modest and unaffected, who tries to lessen the pains of earth and to add to its happiness. She is the true guardian angel of mankind." In closing this note I wish to remark that nothing brighter in the way of lilliputian literature has lately "sparkled" than Mr. Elbert Hubbard's January, '99, *Philistine*. It seems ridiculous to call so small a thing a *novel*, but that is in fact about the size of it."

The Sunday *Journal* has given two or three articles concerning *War Envelopes*, by which is meant envelopes issued at the beginning of the war against slavery in 1861. These articles are marked by the characteristic ignorance of the *Journal*. The most recent article was based upon a collection of envelopes gathered by Mr. Henry Tilden. It has the heading, "Extensive Collections made by Providence citizens," "Number of Envelopes Issued," &c. Mr. Tilden says "that his opportunity to amass a large number of the envelopes was a fine one, and he took advantage of it; he secured upwards of 600." The writer also had a fine opportunity

for he secured nearly 2000 varieties. Mr. Tilden recalls the scenes at Mr. Whitney's Book Store, but he does "not recall that any envelopes were printed here in Providence." Then the *Journal* gives ten reproductions, the first of which is entitled *Jeff's Navy*. This was my own design, engraved by W. S. Hoyt for the writer. Part of it the *Journal* has omitted, in fact all the "point." We will refresh the recollections of Mr. Tilden presently with an article on these things, which we will illustrate with the original blocks still in my possession made by myself. I made eight varieties of these envelopes, the first one of which was brought to me by Col. W. P. Blodgett directly from Mr. Whitney's shop, where the Colonel had taken it to be reproduced. The story will make a clever number of Book Notes presently.

Dr. Keene, Chief Physician at the State Institutions at Howard, is one of the brightest "medical" minds in Rhode Island. He sends to BOOK NOTES an essay just printed at the Sockanosset School entitled *Sanitation and Tuberculosis*. It was read recently at the Fish Commission Congress at Indianapolis in October last. A large part of the paper is given to the effect of water upon health. Few people have the slightest idea concerning it; BOOK NOTES has long and often dwelt upon the subject. Read what Dr. Keene says: "Its (water's) purity means health; Its contamination is never economy; a contaminated water supply cannot be remedied at a moment's notice, nor without great expense; but disease may be prevented by boiling, or by distillation. Distillation is the most effective way to purify water for drinking; filtration, while sometimes effective, is usually a delusion." Observe how this

sagacious and earnest worker sustains the opinion advanced by BOOK NOTES concerning a *Still* for family use named the *Ralston Water Still*. It is perfect in action, costs nothing to run, and gives absolutely pure water. There is a cut of this still is this BOOK NOTES. By referring to it the following description of the process can be seen and understood: Steam is generated in retort A, rises into condenser C, is there changed to liquid form, and drips off into reservoir D. Water in reservoir B promotes condensation and supplies A. E provides sterilized air for re-aerating purposes, and the ammonia and other poisonous gases are expelled through ventilating flue G.

The *Saturday Evening Post*, 17th ult., has the first instalment of the late Harold Frederic's novel, *The Market Place*. It has the 8th chapter of the *Professor's Daughter*, by Anna Farquhar, which gives charmingly told fragments of the local history of the Narragansett Country.

The feeling in England against vaccination as a preventive of small pox is now clearly shown. In a single town, Oldham, in Lancaster County, 43,000 certificates of exemption have been given to parents, who applied under the conscience clause in the law recently enacted; and this, or something just like it, is true of all the towns in England. Mr. Alfred R. Wallace calls the penal enforcement of vaccination a crime. So, too, is the legal enforcement of anybody's whim in medical practice.

Mr. Wallace in his terrible arraignment of vaccination, shows a Diagram of the London Death rates from Zymotic (contagious) diseases from 1760 to 1896, and separate lines showing the death

rate for the same period from Small Pox, which was the only disease (Zymotic) for which vaccination was used as a preventive. The result shows the same decline in all Zymotic diseases, as is shown by the decline by vaccination; and this proves that vaccination had nothing whatever to do with the decline, all other unvaccinated diseases declined in the same ratio.

Whatever questions have arisen in my mind as to *what is God*, have been finally set at rest by the editor of the *Journal*. "God is a person and not a Principle" and hence Christian Science is a delusion. What the *Journal* does not know about the "consistence" of God is not worth knowing. But as to the "Delusion" of Christian Science, here is what President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University (where the freshmen classes are made up of Harvard and Yale graduates) says: "It is idle to say that this (Christian Science) is a mere popular delusion" * * "That mind can cure certain functional diseases admits of no possible doubts." Now why does not the *Journal* print the entire article by President Hall? It was in the *Worcester Gazette* and in the *Boston Transcript*.

This clipping comes from the *New York Times*; it is headed *Death Blow to Protection* and BOOK NOTES believes every word if it is true.

The new ideas that now possess American minds are no mean compensation for the cost of the war. They are many, but take one alone, the idea of the open door. Do the American people realize its breadth and reach? The announcement by a republican administration with William McKinley at its head that the ports of a part of our domain are to be open to the ships and the goods of all nations upon the terms

enjoyed by our own ships and goods is an event as momentous as a change of dynasty in a monarchical country. Protection has been our king and master. Those who set him up and constantly augmented his power now set bounds to his sway. It is the first step. Inevitably it leads to his dethronement and the emancipation of his oppressed realm. Free trade in Luzon is incompatible with protection in Massachusetts. The American sense of humor would tolerate no such ridiculous proposition. Besides, the American manufacturer, having glutted the home market, begins to strain at the hampering bonds of Dingleyism. The Spanish war has knocked the life out of the doctrine and practice of protection.

We have in this country, first, Organized legal *Robbery*; then Organized legal *Charity*; now wherein is the sense of such action? Stop the *first* and the *second* would not be necessary.

On the 28th, third month (March), 1884, there was unveiled at the Friends School in this city, a marble bust of John Bright, the work of William Sheed, the sculptor to Queen Victoria. This work was the gift to the School by James H. Chace of this city. The "*Proceedings*" have just been printed with that characteristic elegance which marks every printed production issued from this institution. Nearly fifteen years have gone by since the event; this delay is explained by Augustine Jones, who has edited the "*Proceedings*;" it arose from the fact that until now, Mr. Jones was never able to obtain the address of Mr. G. M. Towle at the unveiling; and Mr. Towle's address was the chief one. Addresses were made by President Robinson of the University; President Morgan of the Normal School; Professor Thayer of the Harvard Law

School, and others. Several letters add interest to "*Proceedings*," specifically the one from the donor, Mr. Chace; and Mr. Bright's own letter upon the "counterfeit presentment" of himself.

"*Current History*" is the name given to a serial publication issued quarterly in Boston. It is a convenient summary of all political happenings all over the world. It presents concisely, and conveniently arranged, by subjects, for reference, all the essential facts; and it is a biographical dictionary, with portraits; published four times a year. We gather our knowledge, say of the Dreyfus case, from the newspapers; these we read from day to day; but by no possibility, not even by accident, can we catch all the items, so that whatever the opinion we reach, it is necessarily imperfect. Now this little serial will just cover all these omissions and defects. In a concise section it gives every known detail which happened in this case during the three months covered by the issue as published, and just so it is with everything of public or general interest. It costs only \$1.50 per annum. No man, who wishes to keep abreast with the spirit of the age, can afford to "go without" this "*Current History*".

The strangest thing to me is that one Bryan, who is wandering about the country making speeches, does not seek at once the advice of whom "edits" the *Providence Journal*. What this ubiquitous individual does not know about God and money is scarcely worth knowing.

The vote in New York for Governor in November was 1,359,190. There were thrown out as *defective* 9216 votes, but this number included the "scattering" vote. At the same time here in Rhode

Island there were cast on the question of the Constitution 40502 votes, and 9632 were thrown out as *defective*. Are the voters of Rhode Island consummate fools in comparison with the voters of New York. In Rhode Island *one* voter in *four* was *too ignorant* to vote correctly; in New York the ratio was *one* to every 148. Evidently something needs attention.

From the Prov. Journal December 10.

"It (the Brokaw Divorce Case) was made public for the first time yesterday, and then in an accidental way that Mrs. William Gould Brokaw wife of the well known New York Clubman had been granted a Divorce from her husband in this city."

From New York Herald December 10.

The many friends of Mrs. Coralie Couderet Brokaw were not surprised at the announcement of her divorce from her husband, which was recently granted by the Rhode Island courts, for it was known that she was taking proceedings to that end, and that her divorce would certainly be granted.

As was announced in the *Herald* more than a year ago, Mrs. Brokaw took residence in Rhode Island and instituted divorce proceedings.

The conditions which have brought the common school system to the depths to which it has descended, is well illustrated by the fact that "*Old Slenth*," the author, par excellence, of the worst of dime novels, was appointed a member of the Board of Education of Brooklyn, N. Y., by the Hon. Seth Low, and for ten years held the position. His name was H. P. Halsey. He recently died.

In the light of its treatment of the letter of Judge Rogers, concerning the awful libels of the court which it had

published, the editors of the Providence *Journal* must have looked with superlative satisfaction upon the commitment to prison of the editor of the *Boston Traveller*; an act of the lower court which the supreme court sustained on appeal. It is time that those who attempt to edit newspapers were brought within some proper bounds concerning private rights, and civil government.

A few months since the Detective force of the City Police was used to "make" evidence to convict a practitioner of Christian Science, in his attempts to restore the sick to health. Now we have the very heads of the Police undertaking to "make" a practitioner of Christian Science minister to a sick woman. Is, or was, the practitioner to be blamed, in the light of experience, for thinking that the Police was laying a trap for him just as they did for Dr. Swarts, Secretary of the State Board of Health.

There is an eastern proverb which runs something like this. *The best fruits are eaten by the wildest animals.* So, when I saw the ladies whom the *Journal*

accuses of coming from New York, into Rhode Island to obtain divorces from husbands, I thought of this proverb and thanked God that Rhode Island could give such fruit the opportunity to escape the claws of the wild animals which had seized it.

Few men have known more than Benjamin Franklin, yet few have had less education, in the common sense of the word. For not more than two years (at the age of eight to ten) he went to a grammar school and a private school in Boston; for the other fourscore years and more of his life, he learned without a teacher. His father's library was small, but the lad himself spent the little money that came into his hands on serious books. His own experience served to teach Franklin that a strong mind needs no schooling to develop it, and that a poor mind is not strengthened by study. Poor Richard made merry over the "many witty men whose brains cannot fill their bellies," and of those who "would live by their Wits, but break for want of stock." "A learned blockhead is a greater blockhead than an ignorant one," he asserted, and claimed that "of learned fools I have seen ten times ten; of unlearned wise men, I have seen a hundred."—From Mr. Ford's paper on Franklin in the January *Century*.

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VOL. 16.
No. 2.

These BOOK NOTES are preserved bound in nearly all the great college libraries in this country; and in all the greatest public libraries, and Historical societies also; and there they will be preserved for possibly all time to come; for this reason I print the following article, so that scholars coming after us shall see the kind of "stuff" used to prejudice, or to deceive, those who read the newspapers.

At the very head of the first column of editorial matter in the Providence Journal of January 9, 1899, stands this extraordinary "leader": "The currency of our country increased about a hundred and eighty million dollars last year, and yet the average of prices altered very little; with such illustrations as this before them perhaps certain people will in time learn their mistake in considering volume of money of first importance in determining prices."

It is astounding that any decent newspaper should admit to its editorial columns such an illustration of editorial ignorance. The individual who wrote that "leader" is a financial fool. No currency, not itself money, but which is redeemable in money, will ever increase prices. If property increases in amount at the same relative ratio that actual money, gold, increases, prices

are fixed. To inflate prices money must be like the paper bills in the slavery war, not redeemable in anything. The principal effect of this addition to the currency is to stimulate speculation in stocks, but also we owe to it the universal lowering of the rate of interest.

In its issue for 29th August last BOOK NOTES discussed the action of the State Board of Health under the statutes.

The contradictory condition of the statutes was touched upon; and the action of the Board under these laws was shown to be rank in violation of them, as against private rights. There was one point, however, upon which the writer did not touch, and that point was as to the legal constitution of the Board itself. Chapter 96 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, (page 320) Section 1, reads essentially as follows: "The Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate shall appoint six persons * * who shall constitute the State Board of Health * * of the persons so appointed at least three shall be well educated physicians, and members of some medical society incorporated by the State" Section 5 of the same statute (page 321 Gen. Laws) has this: "The Board shall elect a well qualified physician as their Secretary,

who shall be *ex-officio* a member of the Board, the Commissioner of Public Health, and State Registrar; but he shall not be permitted to vote on any question in which he is personally interested." It is a fair legal question for the decision of the Appellate Court. In what consists this Board? Has it six or seven members? How can Dr. Swarts act as a member of the Board? What kind of a question is that in which Dr. Swarts has not some personal interest? Can the Board of Health increase its own membership under the imperative conditions of the first section of the law as above set forth? These are questions of some interest and must be answered by somebody. These matters have gone all too loosely for too long a time.

The drift, or purpose, of the committee of four men, and one woman, appointed by the Mayor, to investigate the question of a waste of money in the public school service is quite apparent, it has labored more than a month, and has found that the city charges the school account with the water used by the schools, just as it does in the case of every other department. It cannot find a family of four persons holding five positions, or a case of a man with a \$1500 salary employing his wife as his clerk on a pension of \$500 more, nor can it discover the cost of the Superintendent's office has gone up from \$2500 to three or four times that sum. Of what use are such investigators.

Mayor Greene of Woonsocket sends to BOOK NOTES his inaugural address of 2nd January 1899. The question of the financial management, and present financial situation of that city is elaborately entered upon, and many tables are presented—one of these tables presents the "Real" and "Personal" prop-

erty valuation for 1871-1898 and the Savings Bank Deposits. The purpose of the table was to show the abominable manner in which property is allowed to escape taxation, while people who have no property pay the entire tax. A lot of rich people taking advantage of the charity of the state in allowing the small savings of the poor in the savings banks to go untaxed, or taxed at a small rate keep deposits in large amounts in these banks. Every deposit in a savings bank amounting to \$3000 or more should be taxed just like other property. But, apply the single tax, that will wipe out a multitude of sins. In Woonsocket the small, poor householder is taxed for the uttermost cent, while the rich personal property holder escapes entirely. Such taxation is slavery and nothing less, and the rich rascals continue to buy into power governments which will so favor them.

The attention of our readers is directed to the advertisement of the Redpath Concert Company in another column. This really fine organization is to be encouraged in their experiment of giving the public the finest programs of operatic and oratorio music at popular prices.

The Junior Class of the Rhode Island College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts gave recently a *musicale* consisting of selections of the highest class of music at this day known to the educated, and given in the most skillful and satisfactory manner. In the same town with this institution are two newspapers; neither complimented the class on its success, nor in fact paid the slightest attention to the entertainment which packed Lippitt Hall to its utmost capacity, but when the *Nonpareil Minstrels* appear at Wakefield, in this same town, the Narragansett *Times* actually

issues a *Supplement*, dated January 6th, announcing the fact, with all the particulars.

Observes our snappy little contemporary, BOOK NOTES: "We have in this country, first. Organized legal Robbery; then Organized legal Charity; now wherein is the sense of such action? Stop the first and the second would not be necessary." But, dear BOOK NOTES, where, then, would we kickers come in? Take things easy. Haven't you got on to the truth that the world is organized on purpose to give us kickers something to kick about? If everything was reformed we'd be having an awful slow time.—Providence News.

The starvation of two women in Providence, within a year, and the quite recent hanging of themselves, (suicide) of two young men here who were unable to get work, at a price which would keep their families from starvation, is a fine commentary upon the McKinley and Dingley's systems of the "protection of labor." And yet the State supplied those poor people with *all the novels they could read*, by means of the Public Library without cost, why not give them food instead of novels.

According to the St. Louis *Republic*, the original necessity for the tariff no longer exists, and all the excuses made in favor of its retention have long ago ceased to be believed. It says:—"Instead of putting abundant revenue into the Treasury, the tariff to a considerable extent keeps it out. *The taxing power is transferred from the government to manufacturers.* It has made hundreds of millionaires, kept tens of thousands from becoming legitimately prosperous, held hundreds of thousands on the ragged edge of bare subsistence and sown poverty and privation in many places."

The Kansas City *Star* remarks that—

"Increasing numbers of protectionists are recognizing that their pet system of fostering home industries has outlived its usefulness, even from their point of view, and the people have reason to hope that the time is near at hand when Middle-Age schemes of trade will vanish forever from the United States."

The New York *Herald* asks "What is the use of a heavy import duty on articles which are being produced at home so cheaply that they are exported and sold abroad for less than the foreign manufacturer can turn them out? The answer is found in the organization of Trusts—like that in wire nails, for instance—which, having secured the exclusion of foreign competitors, aim to exact a swingeing price from the domestic consumer. The system is doomed."

Of course there is a business boom in progress, if you don't believe it read this from the New York *Sun*: "Since Christmas there has been ten failures in New York of concerns that made a specialty of goods intended for holiday presents." The *Sun* notes that some of these concerns carried large stocks, and were entitled to the designation "big." In one or two instances the stocks were valued at more than \$250,000.

The apathy with which men look upon the packing of juries in trials in the courts here is positively shocking to all moral sense; the most abominable actions of members of the bar are discussed with an appalling levity by their fellow members. There is absolutely no "chance" for justice for a poor man, no matter how good his case may be. He cannot overcome a packed jury, and if there is money on the other side the jury is certain to be packed. Look back at the actions in the Lingane case, it was a perversion of all justice; look

at the action of the first grand jury in the case of McWilliams, and to the action of the petit jury in the recent trial; a searching investigation ought forthwith to be instituted, in order to discover if possible the foundation of the actions of both juries. A most wicked case of alleged packing of a jury came to my knowledge while on a grand jury; I asked the assistance of Judge Wilbur; he not only refused me assistance, but most effectively stopped me from entering upon any inquiry. Such things overturn the very fountain head of all justice. How long will men submit to them? Not long since a lawyer here bought the case of a woman who had some slight injury in a cotton mill, for \$250. The lawyer then brought an action for \$10,000—all that the jury would give was his own. Now what chance would the mill owners have had against a packed jury? Not the slightest. Or what chance would the woman have had against a packed jury had she prosecuted her own case? Not the slightest. While serving upon this grand jury a person who had served upon a petit jury, came to me with two cases which came before his jury; he showed me how the jury was packed the night before the trial of two railroad cases. Now if such things are to be tolerated here, all poor men might as well abandon at once all hope of obtaining justice. It cannot be had.

With the permission of the Court, the writer is enabled to print these extracts from the latest charge delivered to a grand jury, in the United States District Court here: "*When your votes are taken, no person besides yourselves should be present.* * * * The District Attorney will assist you in bringing to your attention such matters as require investigation informing you concerning the law, and as to the proper form of your presentment." Such is

the charge of every United States District Court in New England. This was the direct outcome of the assault upon the Grand Jury management here, under Attorney General Burbank, made by the writer. A work to which the writer looks back with just pride, for he will not deny his pleasure that these six United States Courts have accepted the conclusions which the writer was the first man in Rhode Island ever to promulgate.

CLUB COTTAGE, NEWPORT, R. I. }
January 7, 1899. }

Dear Mr. Rider:—

Having relinquished the editorship of the *Newport Herald* (January 1st inst.) I, before leaving for my home at Cooperstown, N. Y., address this note to you to thank you for your courtesy in having sent to me personally, BOOK NOTES during the last four years.

I have never missed reading every issue received of BOOK NOTES, and always with both pleasure and instruction. I congratulate you upon having made your little journal one of the most clever, delightful and independent publications in New England.

With an expression of my personal esteem and best wishes, believe me, dear Mr. Rider, gratefully and faithfully yours, JOHN WORTHINGTON.

It will be very gratifying to those gentlemen who subscribed for Mr. Guild's *Early History of Brown University* at \$6.00 a copy to learn that Mr. Guild has thrown them into a dry goods shop, for sale at \$1.98 each. The Callender, McAuslan & Troup Co. have them. It would have been more honorable on the part of Mr. Guild to have burned them, and thus protected the men whom he asked to assist him, than to offer them at one-third the money which his friends paid to him. The Dry Goods Company in announcing the

offer of the book, makes this extraordinary statement: "This is entirely a *new work made up in part* from his (Guild's) Manning and Brown University, and *in part* from his Documentary History." * * * * "The correspondence of Manning has been *republished* in full." To these reissues of a *new* work, have been added only such documents as have turned up in the past 30 years, which are not worth mentioning. Such work is creditable neither to the author nor the Dry Goods booksellers.

The prices for local bank stocks are still declining. From October 1st, when BOOK NOTES published its table, values have fallen about five (5) per cent. It is quite evident that bank stocks like book stocks are seeking the level of an "honest" dollar of "sound" money. By the way, what do you mean by an "honest" dollar and "sound" money? In 1873, when the crime of the century was committed by the destruction of silver as money, a gold dollar was worth just 97 cents in silver, which was then an honest dollar. Even this week gold

sold in London at 77-10, which is less than the value for coinage.

The editor of the *Journal* tells us that his "God is a Person and not a principle" and hence Christian Science is a humbug. The only possible conception that man can have of a "person" is of himself, or of some other similar creature. The *Journal's* editor's God, is then, either himself, or some other similar creature subject to attacks of colic, or toothache, or bilious gastric abdominal typhoid, given to avarice, and to the manufacture and publication of false news; and of placing "scare" headings to news, which the dispatch itself would often show to be untrue, now if such is a fair conception of the *Journal's* idea of God, what becomes of the Editor's idea that Christian Science is a humbug; it is a *non sequitur*, such a God is susceptible to pills and cathartics as restoratives to health, and if so then to Christian Science itself; in case Christian Science will not help the *Journal's* God no other kind of science ever will.

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VOL. 16.
No. 3.

A Fresh Villification of Rhode Island History by a Massachusetts Writer.

Since the days when Massachusetts attempted the seizing of the lands at Warwick, and the hanging of owners thereof for alleged defects in their religious opinions; or the days when emissaries sent by Massachusetts clergymen for the set purpose stabbed Miantinomi in the back because he was an obstacle to their seizure of the lands in the western section of Rhode Island; or the days when Mary Dyer was hanged on Boston Common, the sole reason being that with all her soul she believed in that religion which the Quakers (reckless, wild, dangerous fellows) of our own days believe—from those days, I say, until this present moment the writers of what is called history in Massachusetts have almost without exception falsified Rhode Island history and villified her people. BOOK NOTES has often torn their tales to tatters, but there is positively no end to the business—a new copiest seems to be born every week—to begin afresh the new birth of old fictions, with such additions as the imagination suggests. The other day a friend innocently enough proposed lending me a book of Massachusetts history. It was entitled

The Pilgrim Republic, an Historical Review, written by John A. Goodwin, once a schoolmaster here in Rhode Island, but now dead. The book was published at Boston in 1888. The editor of this book, Mr. W. R. Goodwin, describes the author of the book, Mr. John A. Goodwin, as one “conversant with everything extant,” and further as “being competent to sift evidence.”

And he describes the book itself as being *not* one of “those whose historical unreliability is their most remarkable characteristic.” The writer of BOOK NOTES holds it to be “absolutely necessary to demand inexorably from historical writers accuracy in the essential and critical facts. An occasional instance of prejudice may be overlooked, for who is wholly free from bias; but a positive blunder or wilful misstatement of really important facts cannot be pardoned nor overlooked. If a historian is convicted of such errors he ceases to be trustworthy on his own account, and every statement that he makes must be given credit when supported by collateral evidence.” These views of an English scholar seem so just that I propose to “try” Mr. Goodwin’s book by them, so far as Rhode Island history is concerned, and see whether it is, or is

not, among those "whose historical unreliability is their most remarkable characteristic." Mr. Goodwin says (page 133): These chiefs (Canonicus and Miantinomi) are credited with making to Roger Williams a princely gift of territory at Providence, but it appears that Williams had a life lease only, the chiefs retaining the title, and that he paid full cash value for all he received. Still they had a great regard for the brave preacher, and showed it by patiently sitting out all his knotty monthly sermons, although opposing his missionary work among their people." Now let us see whether this author knows "everything extant," and is "thoroughly competent to sift evidence," for I am somewhat of a sifter of evidence myself.

That instrument sometimes called a deed, on which must rest all such statements, says: "We two years since sold unto Roger Williams," but not a word suggests a money or cash value. Land in New England had in those days no "cash value." Nothing is written in the document in the nature of a reversion of title. No evidence exists that the Sachems *ever knew of such a principle*, and nothing in their subsequent action denoted any such purpose on the part of these Sachems. On the contrary, the action of their successors, also Sachems, in 1659 and 1660, utterly overthrows the theory. The words are, "I hereby confirm to them, their heirs and assigns forever" (Hist. Tract, sec. ser. No. 4, p. 73). Again, "We bind our heirs and all assigns forever" (Hist. Tract, No. 4, p. 74). Again, "In ye must absolute tenure of fee simple to them and their heirs and assigns forever" (Hist. Tract, No. 4, p. 75); and in each of these deeds the words, "We confirm" (the grants of Canonicus and Miantinomi) appear. In the face of such things what is the use

for these Goodwins to talk of "a life lease," or of the "chief retaining the title," or of a reversion, or of a cash value. There is not a particle of proof that Williams ever preached a sermon to these Sachems, or that either ever sat through all, or even one, of his "knotty" sermons, or that there was any opposition to *his* missionary work. In fact, there is not a word of truth in Mr. Goodwin's entire sentence. The attempt to define the word Narragansett (p. 132), after what Williams wrote about it, is ridiculous. On page 254 it is stated that "in 1680 Rhode Island sent William Harris to England on public business." It is utter nonsense. On the 11th of January, 1680, Gov. Cranston, by direction of the colonial government, addressed a letter to the King, in which he says: "But William Harris was so secret and private in his voyage that he never came to us to know what we had done." (Coll. Rec., vol. 3, p. 78.) On page 480 it is stated that Gov. Arnold (in 1657) advised (or would advise) "the General Court to pass laws against the Quakers." A careful examination of the politic letter written by Gov. Arnold (Coll. Rec., vol. 2, p. 376) will show the nonsense of that statement. On page 484 it is written: "In 1659 Mary Dyer appeared, but was promptly returned to her distressed husband." Nothing in the text refers to the future proceedings against this splendid woman. Mr. Goodwin nowhere states that she was hanged on Boston Common, nor can a general reader obtain from his story the slightest clue to her "crimes." On page 493 this veracious writer says: "The liberals of Rhode Island recognized witchcraft by passing savage laws against it," all of which is an abominable lie. No law of any kind was *ever* passed against it (see Col. Rec., vol. 1, p. 166) wherein was applied a penalty. It was simply

"forbidden," for that is the precise word used. All through his book Mr. Goodwin conveys the idea that instead of the intrigues of Plymouth and Massachusetts to get their lands away from the Rhode Island settlers it was these Rhode Island settlers who were always intriguing to get the lands away from these colonies. It is the same old fable of the wolf and the lamb. Then he says (p. 498), "Rhode Island was constantly clamoring for a part of Plymouth territory." He seems to have forgotten why Roger Williams came across the river to this peninsula. Again (p. 529) he speaks of the "slices of territory taken off by Rhode Island." He does not state how Plymouth was given years to show how her patent covered these lands, but could not do it; and Massachusetts had no title which Plymouth did not have for that colony "scooped" Plymouth. Again, "Rhode Island with surprising effrontery claimed the Mount Hope lands by right of conquest." This statement is absolutely false. The lands came to Rhode Island by virtue of the charter of 1663, and thus Rhode Island claimed and by no other title (Col. Rec., vol. 3, p. 45), and the claim ultimately prevailed just as it ought to have done. Rhode Island *never* set up a claim by right of conquest. Now to cap the climax of such "historical" work Mr. Goodwin on pages 517 and 518 exposes the falsity of his own previous statements by giving accounts of the efforts of both Plymouth and Massachusetts to wrench the Showomet lands (Warwick) from those who bought them from the Indian Sachems, and paid the Sachems for them. Mr. Goodwin fails to show us how Gov. Winthrop relates the value, as an outlet, these lands would have for Massachusetts, and how they of that colony "thought it wisdom to let them *not* slip." (Savage's Winthrop 2, 102.)

As to any clamor on the part of Rhode Island to get away the lands of the surrounding colonies consult Palfrey's *History of New England*, vol. 2, p. 216. On the arrival of Williams with the Warwick patent Plymouth sent one of her assistants to warn Rhode Island that the greater part of the territory covered by that patent was within the limits of Plymouth. Massachusetts sent messengers to Warwick, or Showomet, with a menace. Then Massachusetts brought out the fraudulent Narragansett patent, and at last war. Mr. Goodwin thus still further refutes himself (p. 420), "Plymouth protected Gorton (that is Showomet) *against Massachusetts by claiming jurisdiction.*" Thus Mr. Goodwin admits the attempted "grab" by Massachusetts, and admits a "grab" by Plymouth.

In speaking of the coming of Gorton to Providence, Mr. Goodwin says (p. 419): "He (Gorton) speedily led the tolerant Williams to express regrets that *he* (Williams) could not also banish him, as 'the tide was against it.'" Then in a note this: "Williams seems to have objected not to the principle of banishing unwelcome persons, but to its application to himself;" all of which is the very reverse of the truth. (Consult *Williams' Letters*, p. 142.) Williams did not urge banishment, but raised the question of admission to town ownership.

Mr. Goodwin's story of William Blackstone is unique. He says: "Blackstone was six miles from Providence. He was wont to ride into the latter place on a trained bull sometimes to preach, but he did not have either a roof or a congregation. His first service was under a tree in the presence of one man and two women. The novelty soon attracted several children, which portion of his audience he retained by tossing to them golden apples from

Study Hill, with which he had thoughtfully stored his pockets." This is almost the precise language of Mr. Goodwin (p. 513); all of which is pure myth. There was no "trained bull," no "congregations of one or two," no "golden apples tossed to children while preaching," no "preaching" at all; but the exploitation of these mythological tales about Blackstone and their development is too long a story to now relate. It must wait. Nevertheless it is extremely curious and most instructive. Some day BOOK NOTES will tell you how it grew and grew—out of positively nothing. So stands Mr. Goodwin's book. It is not history. On the contrary, it is the very reverse of history.

An understanding of the intellectual characters of pupils in order to learn the direction of the talent or genius of pupils is a work on which very elaborate studies have been prosecuted by teachers here in Providence. Whatever advantages may have been gained will be lost by the proposed "shaking up," which means transference of teachers to other schools than those now held by them. In which ever light you look at it one cannot fail to see the folly. In case nothing was to be gained why prosecute the studies. If something has been gained then why "shake up." Is not the rapid passing of a procession of pupils sufficient to "shake up" teachers?

A most comical idea was expressed to the writer this week by a bank officer. Here is his view of the fall in bank stocks: It was that the banks are continually "beaten" by men who live far beyond their means, and men who deserve no credit. Such a view is certainly uncomplimentary to Boards of Directors. But what are Boards of Di-

rectors for; are they for the loaning of moneys to dead beats already known to them; they had better take it themselves, for whatever other opinion you may then have of them, it will certainly save them from being considered fools.

The proposed sale of bank stocks to be held here by the state has elicited many published interviews with bank officers. Without exception these gentlemen undertake to give advice to the state against the selling. Under the management of these same gentlemen the stocks have fallen. The invariable reason assigned for the decline is the defaults of debtors. In case that was the cause, why did the bank men loan "money" to such slippery customers? More care should have been taken in making the loans. If these men were incompetent to manage a bank successfully, are they any more competent now to advise? Certainly not. The "system" of banking here has no more resemblance in the management of the bank to the laws of finance than a detective bureau has to the appellate court in the exercise of the judicial function. In fact, bank management is a species of the detective business, joined to personal selfish interests. The situation is very simple. Great exports of manufactured articles and of wheat brought back shiploads of gold. This gold freed currency. Immense stacks of currency lowered the rate of interest, but even at these low rates currency could not find a profit in new, or enlarged, mercantile, or mechanical businesses, because of the low prices of products, hence came enormous stock speculations, which will be quickly followed by the natural result—collapse. Under such conditions there are too many costly banking office rents, far too many high salaried officials, far too much expense of every kind. Four per

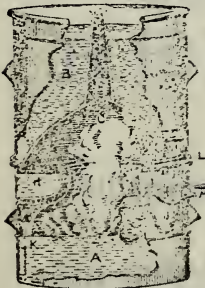
cent. can't stand the strain. Something must give way. The time to sell is when somebody wishes to buy; just now somebody wishes to buy. Fewer banks could be far more economically managed. There is too much wasted talent among the directors. Mr. E. W. Mason held four directorships. Was it because of his special knowledge of finance or of his skill that he held them? Well hardly. Another concern here has seven such directorships. Is it for the purpose of wasting its time in the management of business for the benefit of other people that it holds them? Most certainly not. It does no business in the line of charity. An eye for an eye, or two eyes for one, is its motto. Men will ultimately discover that we have come to the opening of a new century, and upon new lines.

The *Journal* (24th of January) announces that the Hon. Joe H. Walker, a "sound" money man, is appearing in company with the "silverites." This must be pleasing information to those gentlemen among the Trustees of

Brown University who, under the lead of this same "Joe," wrote the letter to President Andrews which resulted in his resignation on this same "dead" issue—silver.

The *Providence Journal of Commerce* of this week will have a fine memorial article on Dr. William Barker. It will present a fine half tone portrait, his autobiography, the fine eulogy delivered by his friend, Mr. E. C. Pierce, and the resolution adopted by the Henry George Club. The death of Dr. Barker was so unexpected that it came as a positive shock to the writer. Dr. Barker was an earnest and honest thinking man, with sufficient courage to stand to his convictions. Some men regarded him as a radical, but he was so conservative a radical as to be in effect the soundest of conservatives. The writer has had many bloodless (wordy) battles with him on the living leading questions of the day, but strange to relate we invariably ended our disputes upon the question of the immortality of the soul. I believe that his soul or his spirit may be at this moment looking down upon me as I write from among the twigs of the elms in my neighbor Vose's grounds, a simile which, the day before his death, the doctor in ridicule had suggested.

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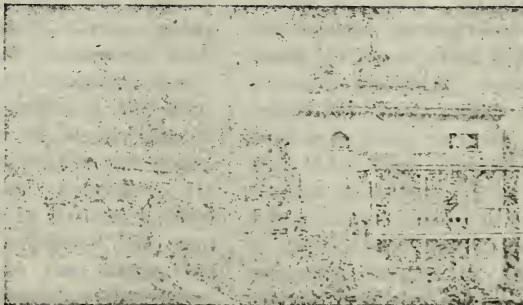
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No. 4.

Minute Entered Upon the Records of the Rhode Island Academy of Den- tal Science in Commemoration of Dr. William Barker.

William Barker was born in Springfield, Mass., August 5, 1842. His death occurred in Providence, R. I., December 17, 1898, at the age of 56 years. He was of good old New England stock that came originally from England, and his lineage is noteworthy for its patriotism. Like so many other men who have made their lives of signal service to the world, Dr. Barker was a poor boy. Bereft of his father in childhood he made early acquaintance with the stern realities of life, and worked in a variety of ways to maintain himself and get an education. In the war of the Rebellion he served actively after two enlistments. In 1875 he began the practice of dentistry in Suffield, Conn., going after a while to East Greenwich, R. I. In 1876 he established himself in Providence, where he continued in the busy and fruitful practice of his profession until his death. Dr. Barker was enterprising, studious and successful. He obtained his degree in dentistry from the Boston Dental College in 1880, and in 1886 he returned to that institution as its Professor of Operative Dentistry,

filling that position for four years with honor to himself and gratification to his co-workers. Dr. Barker was a man of unusual individuality and independence of thought. He was an earnest student of Sociology and through all his mature life was a zealous laborer for what he believed would ameliorate the condition of the less favored classes and be for the advantage of humanity. Actuated by sincere conviction he was an eloquent and forceful speaker and worker in advocacy of every cause of whose justice he was convinced, not influenced in his course by the popularity or unpopularity of doctrines which he expressed. His election to active Fellowship in the Academy was made in 1888, and he was a member of numerous other professional and reform organizations, holding in most of them the most honored official positions. He literally died in the harness, having been engaged at his chair until compelled by the severe pain of angina pectoris to desist three hours before his death came. The Academy desires to place on record this expression of the high esteem in which Dr. Barker was held; of its admiration for his sterling qualities of head and heart; of its profound regret that his earnest, energetic, helpful life, and its pleasant associations here are ended, and its sin-

cere sympathy in their great loss with those who were of his own household.

Charles A. Brackett,	} Committee.
Forrest G. Eddy.	
George H. Ames.	

Following is the paragraph published by the Boston *Traveller* concerning the action of Judge Sherman in the Trial of Getchell for manslaughter.

"There are those who agree with us that Judge Sherman is unfitted, both by nature and by training, for a judicial position, and that always, in any case which is tried before him, he is still the prosecuting attorney for the Commonwealth. Under these circumstances his very excitable and rasping cross-examination of the accused Getchell was no surprise to those who have followed his judicial career. In this case the words of the Judge in his cross-examination of Getchell made an impression upon the jury which could not be effaced by the abject contrition which followed during his charge. The mischief had been done and Getchell was convicted."

This article was printed, and circulated just previous to the giving of the case to the jury. The Editor, Wardner, refused to retract, or to apologize, was committed for contempt, after a few days in jail the Editor, Wardner apologized. If such a paragraph is not beyond the legal rights of a newspaper, it surely should be beyond them. As BOOK NOTES regards the case, upon a careful analysis of the paragraph, Judge Sherman cannot be too highly commended for his act.

The Courts of Massachusetts are at last aroused to action against the unbridled license of newspapers in cases of litigation; the editor of the Boston *Traveller* was committed to prison, and now comes in the Boston *Herald* for a fine of \$500.00. The following, is the case. Judge Bond of the

Superior court fines the Herald Company, \$500 for publishing this headline *Guilt is evident*, in relation to the trial of the Boston city fraud cases last week (Jan. 27th). Judge Bond held the headline to be prejudicial to the case, dismissed the jury, and ordered a new trial. The court ordered, that in case the fine was not paid within twenty four hours, execution issue, and levy be made upon the *Herald* plant.

Judge Bond held that the words "Guilt is evident" would lead one who read the headline only to understand that it referred to the defendants on trial, although it would be found to refer to a person not in any way involved with the defendants. He finds, also, that the words were used with the intent that the reader of the headline should understand them to refer to the defendants, and thereby be induced to buy the paper.

The court further said that it was satisfied that the intent was not to influence the jury but rather "for the purpose of selling the paper by a kind of deception which has been practised by showbill effects which came into use to sell papers".

The action of this same Judge Bond in the Scollans Case in the matter of jury bribing, is an object lesson for the Rhode Island Courts. The time to punish the perjury of witnesses seems to have also come in Massachusetts.

The action of the Massachusetts courts called back to mind the letter of Judge Rogers, to the editor of the *Journal* in the matter of granting divorces, an awful libel, and this suggested the Morning Supplications, or Litany of the editor of the *Journal*.

Remember not our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers, nor assistants, nor take vengeance of our sins,
Spare us good Lord.

From the assaults of the devil, and from everlasting damnation,

Good Lord deliver us.

From sinful affections!! from all the deceits of the world, the Flesh (especially) and the devil,

Good Lord deliver us.

Preserve all Rhode Island magistrates giving them grace to execute justice and to maintain truth--especially truth,

We beseech thee to hear us good Lord.

From the publication of any *Journals*, or the doing of any other business, under the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts courts,

Good Lord deliver us.

My excellent friend, Capt. Marston must have felt himself in fine business in raiding an old negro woman, on Sawin's lane, a week since; but I wish that the captain would renew his youth, in the matter of clearing the snow from the sidewalks. Why not apply a little of the activity which he exhibited in my own case; laws are supposed to be made to be enforced; my friend found a warrant in my own case quite an effective instrument; why not see what effect it might have on other men; serve us alike gentlemen of the force.

The following paragraph is taken from the *Ladies' Home Journal*, one of the brightest and best of the new class of illustrated papers for the household:

"While we see easily enough how enlarged resources and contact with European habits of life and luxury moulded many of the alterations which were as incessant as the incoming of fresh tides from the sea, we do not think enough of the modifying effects of comforts so common in our day as to be out of the reckoning. Heat and light were potent factors in enlarging our gayeties and increasing our love of

social gatherings. I believe that it was in 1816 that Martin Wilkins, a dealer in fuels, wrote: "I am willing to certify that under favorable circumstances this coal (anthracite) is capable of ignition, and I am willing further to certify that if Rhode Island is underlaid with such coal, then at the general conflagration which our ministers predict, it will be the last place to burn." That is rather more severe than William Cullen Bryant was when he wrote his "Meditations on Rhode Island Coal."

"Thou shalt be coals of fire to those that hate thee,
And warm the shins of those that underrate thee."

Somehow neither Rhode Island coal nor Rhode Island theology seems to exactly suit certain outsiders. Parson Samuel Hopkins once wrote two stout octavos which set forth his view of the *System of Doctrines contained in Divine Revelation*. Concerning this "learned" treatise Henry Ward Beecher said that if there should ever happen another deluge, there would be one dry place, and that would be where Hopkins' System of Doctrines lay." In case Messrs. Wilkins and Beecher are correct in their hypotheses these plantations are not without advantages. We can keep dry and still not burn.

Singular as it may seem, BOOK NOTES has found an item in the *Journal* with which it is in accord. Here it is. "That we are suffering from an overdose of printed matter goes without saying. Until critics take their duties more seriously, and until the public taste grows more refined it is idle to expect any relief" (*Journal* 27 January). Now then how come such depraved conditions. Did the monstrosity, a Sunday newspaper have anything to do with it; take a years book reviews in the *Journal* and see whether you can discern a single

word of honest criticism. You will not find one word. It touches and corrupts everything. The Public Libraries, which throughout Rhode Island circulate 85 novels in every 100 books taken out from them. Good music has ceased to be heard save at such a loss, that no more will come here. Vaudeville now packs houses, while Modjeska goes begging, to empty benches. One of the greatest factors in the production of such dismal conditions in this very same *Journal* which now points so clearly at its own handiwork. Look at this illustration. The Los Angeles Times. Sunday January 1st 1899 has 128 pag:s. This paper sells at 10 cents. It contains as much printed matter as four volumes of Irving's Life of Washington, published at \$10.00, contained.

The appeal of Dr. Pirlet against the State Boarn of Health is set for a hearing in the Appellate court for Monday Feb. 20. It has been kept dangling in the courts, now, nearly three years, chiefly by the treachery of lawyers, and it is one of downright oppression.

President McKinly is rapidly fortifying his former history. His purchase of McEnery; his "punishment" of Eagan; his appointment of Shafter; the sacrifice of a great people in the belittling political trading; his "embalmed" beef contracts, are all things yet to be settled with, and if the American people don't settle with the President, then I do not understand them.

The proposed sale of bank stocks (some 4000 shares) held by the State, as investments of the School Fund took place on the 9th inst. The prices brought showed the unwisdom of those bank officers who had published interviews advising against the sale. But there are some curious reflections anent

this matter. The blocks offered were:

	45 shares R. I. National.
142	" Merchants' National.
332	" Mechanics National.
572	" American National.
813	" National Bank of Commerce.
1000	" Globe National.
1265	" Nat. Bk. of North America.

On the morning of the day of the sale the *Journal* gave the bid values of these stocks as follows:

R. I. National,	16.25
Merchants,	53.00
Mechanics,	33.50
American,	29.50
Bank of Commerce,	29.00
Globe,	50.00
North America,	37.00

At the sale these stocks brought

R. I. National,	17.75
Merchants,	57.00
Mechanics,	47.25
American,	37.00
Bk. of Commerce (not sold)	38.25 bid.
Globe,	66.25
North America,	62.25

In case these latter prices indicate actual values, of what use are the *Journals* regular quotations; and what is the purpose of the Brokers' Board, and who has been using it? But there are indications conspicuous in the last two items, that some other motive than that of values lay beneath the bids of certain bidders; we shall learn by and by what it all meant.

The *Nation* 9th Feb has this concerning the Hon. "Joe" Walker, the Massachusetts congressman. "A professed friend of currency reform, he has by his "crankiness" done more to thwart progress than any silverite in the House, and it will be a great gain for the cause of sound legislation when he surrenders his seat to the gold-standard Democrat who beat him for re-election last fall,

The plea of those who oppose any action was that it would not be "good politics."

It was on the action of this same distinguished gentleman that the Trustees of Brown University dealt with President Andrews on the right of private opinion concerning silver as money.

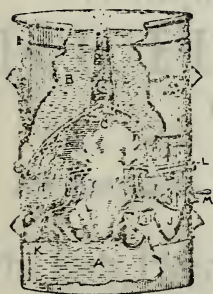
Mr. Gilbert E. Whittemore's defence of his positions in the school system is one of those defences which fails to defend; because Boston has 17 truant officers, is it any reason why one truant officer here should employ his wife as his clerk at five hundred dollars a year; if he can get *five dollars an hour*, as inspector of night schools why should he not be in favor of their everlasting continuance; in his own opinion his work "is not bankrupting the city". Possibly not, but in my own opinion it is doing the city no good. Mr. Whittemore was a book agent for the *pushing in* of school books, and it is those methods which he is pursuing; if a man cannot see the manifest impropriety of employing his

own wife as his clerk, then he is no better than a book agent.

So far as the public know, about the only persons who have actively appeared before the people who were appointed to investigate the extravagant vagaries now barnacled to the schools, are those men and women who were active in producing the conditions, and whose salaries are dependent upon their continuance. The School Committee is now, and has for forty years been a corrupt ring for the aggrandisement of the members of the committee or their relatives; and all this at the cost of the people.

It seems scarcely decent for an Editor of a newspaper to publish, on the same day, two editorials within two inches of each other flatly contradictory of each other. Yet that is just the exhibition, the *Journal* here made on the 13th inst; the first *advocates* an issue of government bonds, the last *opposes* such an issue. You pay your money and takes your choice.

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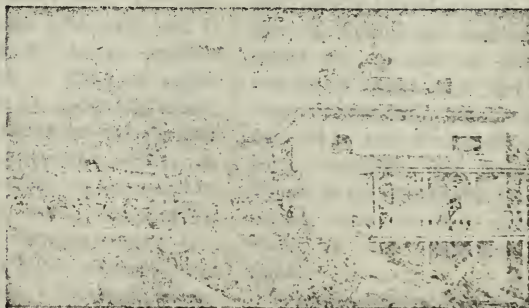
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SATURDAY, MAR. 4, 1899.

VOL. 6.
No. 5.

A Sober Second Thought on Mr. Larned's History for Ready Reference.

During the years in which Mr. Larned's *History for Ready Reference* was published BOOK NOTES spoke, from time to time, concerning the volumes; the method of the book was entered upon, and heartily commended, illustrations were made use of, in order to show this method; the utility of the book for men, whether ill, or well read, seemed to be apparent, and the success of the work of the publisher, has more than justified the hopes of the constructor, for Mr. Larned was not the author of the work. The articles, then written, (there were five of them) are herein reproduced in the order of their publication, nothing has been changed, but it has occurred to the writer to preface their re-issue, with a kind of sober second thought, or a month's mind, concerning the justness of the former judgment and test anew the utility of the book. To this end it has occurred to the writer to test the work, concerning the great political changes which the past twelve months have wrought for the American people. These changes have not indeed changed the Republic into an Empire. There is nothing re-

sembling Imperialism in them. American people to their everlasting humiliation did not seek these changes; they were thrust upon them, like the decrees of fate; we could not escape them. Nearly three centuries ago a ship load of Englishmen landed on the shores of Plymouth in search of some place on this earth where they might escape the religious lash of the ruling King; these men shot the first Indian, on Dec. 8th; two days before the planting of the village at Plymouth, and from that day until this the shooting of the Indian has not ceased, the population of a continent has been swept into eternity and another race has taken their places. Mr. Larned tells us that the religious liberty for which the first planters came, was ultimately found, that it made its home here in American, and that now it has made the circuit of the globe. The events of 1898, have set the seal upon that statement. The Americans have carried to the Philippines that which they wrought out here in America. There is no export duty on ideas, a fact which will become more and more clear as you examine Mr. Larned's book.

It must not be overlooked that this *History for Ready Reference* is a Political History, and is not a Natural History.

Don't waste your time in reading it to find out whether a jackal can run faster than a deer; or whether Luzon tobacco is better than that grown in Connecticut; you will find nothing of the sort; would you ask a surgeon to set a broken spoke? The United States have shown the world their strength, in about a moment of time. Hawaii, Porto Rico, the Philippine group, Guam, and (as a matter of fact) Cuba, with all their peoples, have fallen to the care of the American people; before this we had only the natural productions of the temperate zone, now comes to us the bewildering productive abundance of the tropics. That we shall ultimately manage matters for the betterment of their people, there can be no question. Consult Mr. Larned's book for that which has been, while our people are at work showing him what will be. Nearly thirteen hundred (1300) islands in the seas are now a part of the domain of the American people; in three zones the Stars and Stripes wave over freedom to men. It behooves us to know something of the History of these lands or islands. Mr. Larned refers us to the accounts of the discovery of one of the Hawaii islands by a Spanish navigator in 1542; other islands were subsequently found by either Spanish or Portuguese ships, but it was not until the English, under Capt. Cook, while in search of a northwest passage, in 1777, sailed among the entire group. Capt. Cook named them the Sandwich Islands, after Lord Sandwich: from one authority Palmyra Island, nearly 800 miles south from Hawaii, belongs to the group. Capt. Cook called them "a lovely group of twelve islands." The name Hawaii came from the Malayan name *Owhyhee*. Having in the precise words of the authors told these preliminary things, Mr. Larned then indicates the other authors to whom you can go. The

Larned has given quite extended details concerning modern political movements all of which seem to drift towards our own country.

Mr. Larned does not in direct terms refer to Palmyra Island, but in overhauling his references one lands upon it. Two hundred and thirty-five years elapsed after the Spanish discoveries, and absolutely no progress whatever had been made by the inhabitants of Hawaii, and no advance was made until Capt. Cook landed there. Mr. Larned will tell where and what, and how large they are, how many people are there and the race to which they belong; and a concise political history from their discovery.

Cuba was found by Columbus on his first voyage, in October, 1492; the next year, on his second voyage, he found Porto Rico, in November, 1493. In 1494 Columbus made his second visit to Cuba, which he believed to be a continent. He died in that belief. From the earliest day the Spanish were at war with the native people, whom they plundered and licentiously abused. Columbus by war reduced the natives to servitude and misery and imposed heavy exactions.

On his second voyage Columbus carried calves, goats, hogs, sheep, fowl, and seeds of lemon, orange, melon and various orchard fruits.

Then came the stupendous bull of Pope Alexander VI, giving to the Spanish kings "all the lands discovered, or which may be hereafter discovered in the western ocean." In such a simple way, an individual, a man, for a Pope, is neither more, nor less, than a man disposed of the surface of the earth. It argues only for the stupendous ignorance of these people, that a title so absurd, was held valid for four centuries.

Cuba was first called Fernandina, as

a compliment to the king of Spain. Havana and Santiago were both planted in 1615, a hundred and five years before Plymouth. Look back for a few minutes upon the advance of the two systems of civilizations, and then question if it is not time for a change.

BOOK NOTES cannot go into the minute details with which Mr Larned so severely tempts it. But upon one set of incidents it must touch, to wit, the English operations there in 1762-3. In 1762 the English captured Havana, and held the locality nearly a year—one authority informs us that the English looted the people of upwards of £750,000 sterling, nearly \$4,000,000. Two other English authorities give the amount of this looting as three millions sterling, or \$15,000,000. In 1763 the English surrendered the city and such portions of the island as they held, taking Florida, and all the territory held by Spain east of the Mississippi.

The English had for many years been in close commercial relations with Spain in connection with these islands; in the twenty years 1680-1700 the English carried there from Africa about 300,000 slaves. Mr. Larned will tell about these things, and especially about the infamous Assiento contract whereby England was given an absolute monopoly of the supply of Negro slaves from Africa to the Spanish West Indian island for thirty years.

Mention is herein made of the inauguration of war with the advent of the Spaniards. These wars ultimately assumed the form of insurrections, and they have never ceased. In the last three quarters of a century there was the insurrection of the society of soles in 1823; in 1830 the conspiracy of the Black Eagle; in 1844 the insurrection of the Blacks; in 1851 the rising by Lopez and the filibustering schemes from the Southern states of our own country; and since

that time there has been almost continuous war.

So far as American interest in Cuba is concerned Mr. Larned teaches us that it began with the Slave Masters of the south. These men were aroused by the abolition of slavery in the South American Spanish colonies as they became independent; this suggested to these masters that were Mexico and Columbia to wrest Cuba and Porto Rico from Spain, and abolish slavery; it would break its hold upon the slave system, and hence these islands would become objects of fear, until the acquisition of Texas; from that time these masters became possessed with a vehement desire to obtain the islands and devote them to slave systems. This resulted in an offer by President Polk of a hundred millions of dollars for them, which offer Spain refused. Then came the Ostend Manifesto, which declared "that the American Union can never enjoy repose and serenity so long as Cuba is not embraced within its boundary," and this principle was endorsed by the Democratic platforms in 1856 and 1860.

Concerning the Philippines, Mr. Larned is less direct than in the other cases. It is through the races that he approaches the question, thereafter followed by referring to such authorities as seem to be the strongest; from these men we get at the political history. This group was discovered by Magellan in 1521 and named after the reigning Spanish King, Philip II. The people were Malayan, and concerning them Mr. Larned has given elaborate accounts by Mr. Brinton, and followed with references, to other leading authorities.

In 1762 Manila was captured by an English fleet, just as Havana was captured, and England exacted a ransom of one million pounds st'g, \$5,000,000.

which sum the Spaniards paid the English. This, in connection with the Cuban looting made nearly \$10,000,000 which the English received in money, besides Florida and nearly all our Gulf States.

When compared with our present "imperialistic" schemes, such actions read somewhat differently. In place of looting these islanders of millions, we are giving them millions of dollars, in order to give them some chance in the world. Such is a fair showing of Mr. Larned's History.

The State Board of Health is seeking increased powers at the General Assembly by means of an amendment to the present laws. The proposed amendment is opposed upon three grounds.

First. That it greatly increases the power of a Board now illegally constituted.

Second. That the Board has not fulfilled, even in the slightest manner, the promise of its founders. It is a danger to public health instead of a benefit.

Third. The laws under which the State Board assumes to act, are contradictory in character, and in conflict

FIRST.

The Board is not now a legally constituted body. For these reasons:—Chap. 96, Sec. 1, General Laws, reads, "The Governor, with the advice of the Senate shall appoint six persons who shall constitute the State Board of Health." Src. 5 of the same chapter, reads, "the Board shall elect a well qualified physician as their secretary, who shall be ex-officio, a member of the Board." Legally, how many members has this State Board?

SECOND.

This State Board of Health was founded upon these hypotheses:—"The primary purpose of these Boards is the

prevention of diseases, and the diminution in a marked manner of the death roll," (First Report p. 13). "The results of the labors of these Health Boards show conclusively that sickness and mortality have been greatly reduced." Dr. C. H. Fisher was then made permanent secretary and began the work of "increasing the natural inheritances of man, health and longevity."

Now, look at the results. covering 40 years, 1853-1893. The death rate instead of diminishing, has actually increased, and has more than doubled. The figures here following are taken from the reports of the State Board; they represent the number of the dead in each 1,000 of the people in this State, calculated in periods of four years.

1853-1857	13.7	1874-1878	19.7
1858-1863	16.2	1879-1883	17.8
1864-1868	16.9	1884-1888	18.6
1869-1863	17.2	1889-1893	19.6

The latest death rate published is that for the city of Providence, for January 1899. It is 23.93 for each 1,000. The largest annual death rate on record for the city of Providence during the 42 years in which these records have been kept was that of 1864, to wit., 23.81 in each 1,000 inhabitants—that for January 1899, exceeded it and was a record breaker—the average being 19.93. Such has been the result of sanitation, vaccination, isolation, placarding and quarantining well people with contagious disease. Thus the death rate has increased more than 100 per cent.

During these years the State Board has controlled the admission of doctors. Their number has more than doubled. Almost in exact proportion to the doctors admitted by this Board, men die.

For the Board to undertake to account for this terrible increase by charging it to the stupidity of Town Clerks is in fact to impeach their own records. Moreover the Board has said "The unreliability of the returns relate not so much to the numbers of the dead, as to the causes of death."

A Town Clerk might possibly count correctly the number of the dead; but he might be forgiven for not knowing

the latest name which the doctors had given the diseases which killed them. I personally gathered, from the time of Galen, the different names which had been given to the disease which we now call Diphtheria; there were 78 different names.

THIRD;

The conflict of the laws relates *first* to the constitution of the Board, which cannot under the same law consist of six, and also, of seven members; and *second* to the power of quarantining men. The power to quarantine a locality upon the land, is given to the Governor; he must do it by proclamation; "(Gen. Laws p.167). The 16th section of this law undertakes to get around the 15 preceding sections of the law, in the interests of the State Board. These same conflicting provisions are continued in the proposed amendment, and a new conflict is introduced. Sec. 6 of the proposed amendment says: "Nothing shall be so construed to prohibit gratuitous services in case of emergency." Section 8 reads: "Any person shall be regarded as practising medicine *within the meaning of this Act*, who shall investigate or diagnose or offer to do either, any physical or mental ailment with a view of affording relief. If this proposition becomes a law, I, personally, would be liable to a fine of \$50 for inquiring into the physical condition of my son, and giving him a dose of Senna. In fact it provides a punishment for me, when I perform my plain duty.

CONCERNING CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

The editor of the *Journal* said 28th January 1899. "No one will deny that the Christian Scientist states a truism when he says that many diseases yield to purely mental treatment." Precisely, then why allow the State Board of Health to have a law against our sick men and women who wish to avail themselves of this curing by mind, instead of by medicine. President Hall of Clark University, the highest institution of learning in this country says, "it is idle to say that this (Christian Science) is a mere delusion, or that it can be stamped out by laws." This very learned man says also, "That mind can cure certain functional diseases, admits of no possible doubt." Then why does the General Assembly prohibit the use of it by law? This same very

distinguished man said, "It a most striking fact that so many intellectual men and women are at heart convinced of some very important and fundamental truths in Christian Science." Then can the General Assembly enforce a penal statute against it? It never can.

Last winter, Professor William James one of the most cultivated and distinguished teachers at Harvard University, gave good labor and learning to defeating just such an infamous act presented in the Massachusetts General Assembly.

The very learned and distinguished scholar, Heber Newton, holds that the curative potency of mind is a "real thing."

There is not an honest, educated physician in Rhode Island who does not know the fact, and use it in his practice every day.

These gentlemen have changed the present law which permits women to practice midwifery. If this amendment is enacted, no women can hereafter serve in such a capacity. This change is made in Section 6.

The appeal of Dr. Pirlot against the State Board of Health which for nearly three years had been held up, came to a hearing before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court on Monday of this week. The Board of Health produced documents in evidence showing that no person of the name Jules A. Pirlot, had been a student at the Academie de Medecine, Faculte de Paris, in the years 1871-1872-1873 and this being true, the Diplomas Dr. Pirlot held must of necessity be fraudulent. Dr. Pirlot was kindly given by the consent of the Board of Health, with the permission of the court, six months during which to procure evidence whereby this serious condition of his might be explained away. BOOK NOTES has striven hard to give Dr. Pirlot a hearing by this court; and at last succeeded. —whatever the outcome, BOOK NOTES is glad; if Dr. Pirlot is an imposter, let him be so found, a judicial investigation was the very best thing for all concerned; for Dr. Pirlot, the Board of Health, and for the people. As the case now stands the action of the Board of Health was not without reason; but the case will again heard from, the end is not yet.

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No. 6.

The Rank Rottenness of the "Final" Monetary Report.

The report of the Monetary Commission of the Indianapolis Convention of Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce, Commercial Clubs, and other similar bodies (but of no laboring men, nor of any merchants) in the United States, is published in a stout octavo of upward of 600 pages, at Chicago, but it is to be obtained of Mr. H. H. Hanna of Indianapolis, Indiana. This report is so strongly commended by certain classes of newspapers, in support of what they call "honest" money, that it is well worthy of examination. A very limited review of it was made and published by Mr. F. A. Cleveland of Chicago, by which BOOK NOTES was induced to look over the report. It is positively astounding for the cool audacity of the statements which it puts forth. Let me give you a few specimens:

Final Report, p. 101.—"The fall in the prices of goods therefore is not only an advantage in itself (of course to the seller) as evidence of the easier acquisition (by the creditor) of the commodities we need, but it is no evidence of the scarcity of gold." If it is no

evidence of the scarcity of the standard of values—gold, or whatever it may be, then it is no evidence of anything. This "advantage in itself" must now be quite clear to a Rhode Island cotton mill owner; or to an owner of R. I. bank stocks, based upon local notes; or to a Rhode Island owner of a house for which he paid \$8,000,—\$3,000 of which was his own hard earned cash, and then had the fun of seeing his mortgagee, illustrate the "easier acquisition" part, by buying the home for \$5,000. The "ease of acquisition" part seems to apply only to the mortgagee, just as the sacredness of property applies wholly to that class of men, but it is awfully funny to a man who loses everything in the way of property which he has saved. Such is the view, all the way through, which these Indianapolis bankers, or Shylocks have taken. On this very same page 101, these men say "Goods have cheapened somewhat more than gold, hence the resulting fall of prices coincident therewith." In our very city, Bank Stocks have fallen in ten years, 33 per cent.; had enhancing the value of the standard nothing to do with this terrible shrinkage?

Final Report, p. 97.—"We cannot have two different standards of value without having two sets of prices."

Thus when gold and silver, in 1872, composed the standards of value, we had two sets of prices—*did we*—but then according to these wise and honest men, values are fixed by standard money; in case gold and silver are the standards, then gold and silver fixes prices; in case one of these standards is thrown out, for instance silver, then according to these honest men, the other standard, gold, must fix the prices—hence the value of my house and my books have been cut exactly in the middle, and all *my* property destroyed in searching for an “honest” dollar.

Final Report, p. 100.—“The conclusion is irresistible that since it is desirable to choose a commodity as a standard which fluctuates least in its exchange value *in short periods* of time for reasons affecting itself gold *must* be that commodity.”—Gold is not a commodity, it is standard money, which is something more than a commodity; but why restrict the fluctuation of “the standard” to “*short periods*” of time when it is upon long-time payments, that the whole question rests, as Mr. Frederick A. Cleveland, from whom some of these ideas come, pointedly says: “Does a man in business ordinarily calculate on his properties depreciating 50 per cent in ten years owing to the enhanced value of the standard.”

••• *Final Report, p. 99.*—“Losing a great part of its monetary demand, this large mass became heavy in value and in its downward movement showed the possibility of sudden rushes as it fell”—by taking from under silver its money quality why should not its monetary demand be lost. Would not the action of gold be precisely the same—it most certainly would.

The ratio of silver to gold, as shown by the Report of the Director of the Mint, Washington, D. C., 1898, covers each year from 1687 to 1898. The lowest

ratio was that of 1760. It was 14.14 to 1. The highest ratio from 1687 to 1873, was 16.25; it touched that figure but once in all those years. It was 16.11 in 1812, and 16.08 in 1808—with these three exceptions the ratio in all those 211 years never touched 16 to 1. In 1873, when silver was thrown overboard, the ratio was 15.92. From 1873 to 1898, the ratio has steadily risen from 16.17 in 1874 to 35.40 in 1898. During the 186 years, from 1687 to 1872, the average ratio was 15.31. In 1873 it was 15.92. The average for the preceding 60 years, from 1814 to 1873, both years included, was 15.61. These ratios are taken from 1687 to 1832 from the ratios of Dr. A. Soetbeer; from 1832 to 1878 from Pixley and Abell's tables; from 1879 to 1896 from the daily cablegrams from London to the Bureau of the U. S. Mint. In the light of such a history the terrible crime of 1873 becomes clearly visible.

Final Report, p. 99.—“So enormous a change in the attitude of the world toward silver created finally a condition of the world toward silver which made it sensitive to sudden changes of demand.” Note for one moment the table of values in the ratio between gold and silver given in the Report of the Director of the U. S. Mint, 1898, from 1687 to 1873, and you will see the falsity of the statement.

Final Report, p. 105.—“The coinage of silver is sometimes urged as a means of aiding debtors”—just as the coinage of gold alone is urged as a means of ruining debtors. The throwing out of silver robbed every debtor in this country.

Final Report, p. 83.—“When people who are hard pressed say that there is not money enough, they mean that they do not have wealth or property enough to satisfy their wants; those who have marketable property have no

difficulty in getting money." When your house is advertised by the mortgagee, your complaint is, not that there is not money enough, but that reducing the volume of the standard money by the government had so reduced the standard money value of your house, as to swipe all your equity, and leave you penniless. You do not complain that you had nothing to sell. Such is the utter absurdity of those "honest" money men.

Final Report, p. 103.—"It should be kept well in mind that it is not a proper function of government to step in and save men from the ordinary risks of trade and industry." Is it any more the proper function of government, by throwing away one-half our standard of value to shrink the value of your house one-half. Is it any more the proper function of government for the U. S. Treasury "to step in and save Wall street from the ordinary risks of industry."

Final Report, p. 79. "It depends merely upon the side looked at whether there has been a rise, or a fall, in value. When we state the price of wheat in the standard, say in gold, we are comparing the value of wheat with gold; if the price of wheat rises we may correctly say, since wheat commands more grains of gold, either that wheat has risen, or gold has fallen." When your house, which cost \$8,000, shrinks to \$5,000, upon which side must you look to find out whether there has been a rise or fall.

Final Report, p. 99.—"No such sudden and erratic changes have taken place in the exchange value of gold relatively to goods"—well, suppose such changes have not taken place, was it because gold has been treated legally different from silver—it had been kept the money standard—but how can this Money Commission show that the value of gold

has not risen, just as the value of silver has fallen? It cannot.

It goes without saying that a case cannot stand upon arguments, so absolutely unsound. If no other reasons exist for the gold standard then it has no base upon which to rest. Now look at this fitting end to my paper taken from the Boston *Herald* of March 4. "Mr. Walker (Joe) spoke in high terms of Mr. H. H. Hanna of the Indianapolis monetary committee, but denounced the manner in which he and his colleagues had lobbied about the Capitol for alleged currency reforms. "The difficulty with these reformers," said he, "is that they obtain their facts from canvass-back and terrapin, and their arguments from champagne. The result is robbery."

On the 5th of August last, the Hon. S. M. Jones, of Toledo, Ohio, delivered an address on municipal ownership of franchises in cities. It was a clear and very able argument. From it came the citation from the speech of Abraham Lincoln, quoted in a recent BOOK NOTE, in which Mr. Lincoln compared the "common right of humanity with the divine right of kings," in which the latter says to the former, "You work and toil and earn bread and I'll eat it." Here is another quotation from Mr. Jones' speech—it comes from Wayne McVeagh of the University of Pennsylvania:

"Bribed by the rich to rob the poor," was the scathing verdict pronounced by the Honorable Wayne McVeagh upon the legislators of Philadelphia who leased the gas works created by the vote of the people without any resort to the vote of the people; and in the address at the commencement exercises of the University of Pennsylvania last year, the same honored gentleman said to the students of that institution that

the "black flag of the corruptionist is more to be dreaded than the red flag of the anarchist."

Men do not like to speak, in an audible voice, their distrust of trials by jury here in Rhode Island. The latest illustration is the case of McWilliams. McWilliams was a Roman Catholic; there were five Roman Catholics upon the jury, and the jury stood 7 for conviction to 5 for acquittal; in the light of the evidence, such a situation is inexplicable save upon a single hypothesis. Are juries manipulated in the interest of parties, for money or for other considerations, and are lawyers at this bar engaged in such practices? No reformation will ever come from within the bar, nor can it come apparently from the courts; it must then be submitted to by the poorer men, or they must overthrow it. It is positively intolerable, and some of it the writer has positively seen in actual practice.

Mr. R. H. Deming is reported by the *Journal* as saying in his remarks about Docks that "a year ago there was more than twenty millions of dollars worth of wool stored in the city of Providence." If that was true, then it was stored here in order to get the advantage of 10 cents a pound which the Dingley tariff put on wool. This was equal to an increase of one-third in the price—nearly \$7,000,000 taken squarely out of the hard-earned wages of men, and nothing given in return—and this Mr. Deming calls the "Protection" of labor.

Those who denounce with so great indignation a person who collects *Book Plates*, characterizing the act as a species of vandalism, will do well to remember that a fine *Book Plate* is, in a great many cases, worth more than the book out of which it is taken.

If the Bible is the only sufficient guide for man in reaching eternal Salvation, there certainly ought to be no "corners" entered into by men holding pecuniary rights or profits in such an essential book. Yet such a "corner" seems to have been fixed by the American Revision Committee, with the Delegates of Oxford, and the Syndics of Cambridge Universities in England. The object was to enable these English publishers to make profits out of the American sinners who could only be saved by buying this English book.

Mott's *Anecdotes of persons of Color*, was published in New York in 1837. This was the 2nd edition. It has this epitaph, which it says was copied from a tomb stone in the neighborhood of Providence, R. I.

Here lies the best of slaves
All crumbling into dust,
Cæsar, the Ethiopian, craves
A place among the just.

His faithful soul has fled
To realms of Heavenly light,
And by the blood that Jesus shed
He's changed from black to white.

There is no date, nor other fact, by which identification could be established, but consider for a moment, the bearing. This stone was set by the legal owner of another man, who possessed during this black man's life, the legal right to sell his wife, his children, and himself, and to strip him legally of every dollar earned by the man's labor. Two millions of white men shot each other in order to extinguish such "legal" rights.

In case you desire to learn something about the working of organized charities, study the cases of the Ministry-at-Large, and the Providence Aid Society, both here in Providence, and of my own time—both were swindles on a large scale.

The Boston *Herald*, with much complacency, stated that Governor Boies of Iowa had forsaken the silver heresy of one Bryan, and with the "Governor" went Governor Altgeld, the "brainiest" member of Bryan's party. On the 13th ult. it has this concerning "Governor" Boies:

"Uncle Horace Boies of Iowa is back in politics again, with a new financial scheme that very much resembles the "Rag Baby." Uncle Horace ought not to father such things at his time of life," and meantime the *Herald* was forced to take back what it had said of Governor Altgeld, or leave a lie to fester in its columns.

In Wiltshire, England, there is a monumental brass on which is the inscription "John Coffor, Gentleman servant for 38 years to Sir William and Henry, Earls of Pembroke, 1585, and wife *Phelipe*." It has two figures kneeling, with an inscription consisting of four English verses and two coats of arms, one with crest and mantling. The second wife of John Greene of Warwick

is given in the books as "Phillip," the feminine form of the name above explains the form of the name, which here became corrupted in spelling.

The *Journal* in its obituary of Gen. George S. Greene does not state that he surveyed the line of the Providence Warren & Bristol railroad in 1852 and estimated the cost. Gen. Greene estimated the cost of the land and the construction of the road, with the equipments, at \$292,039. The cost was about \$652,000. Gen. Greene was also the author of the genealogy of the family of Richard Greene, which was printed, a fact which the *Journal* does not produce.

Senator E. L. Freeman has introduced a law into the General Assembly, the purpose of which is to enable a Rhode Island Insurance company to levy a specific tax on the fire insurance policies of the Rhode Island people. This is carrying the principle of the protective tariff along state lines—a Rhode Island Senator asks for a law for Rhode Island insurance companies to levy a specific tax on Rhode Island citizens.

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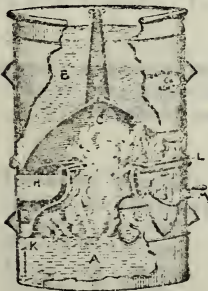
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SATURDAY, APR. 1, 1899.

Vol. 16.
No. 7.

The Strongest Advocates for Gold for Money are the Men who Devised the Infamous Hanna- Payne Shipping Bill.

The following extract is taken from the Congressional Record, March, 1899. It appears in a statement made by S. A. Robinson of New York, which was made part of his speech by Mr. Clayton, M. C. It exposes the purpose, and the result of the Hanna-Payne Shipping Bill, which some of the backers of the present administration tried to push through the congress just ended. But, happily, failed through time.

"Mr. Clement A. Griscom, president of the International Navigation Company, in an address before the Senate Committee on Commerce, January 12, 1899 said his company would have to build 60,000 tons of ships, at a cost of \$7,500,000, if the bill became a law. This is equivalent to saying that such ships cost \$125 a ton.

"Taking this as a basis, the \$120,000,000 (of foreign built ships which would be entered) would represent 960,000 tons, which, in the ships of 10,000 tons each, would give 96 ships, which could, if they had shown 21 knots an hour in a four hours trial, draw

\$277,758 each annually, which would amount to \$26,664,768 a year, and to \$533,295,360 during the twenty years of their contract. This would be money paid to foreign-built ships, and, as one-half as much tonnage would have to be built here, it would, if costing the same price per ton and in the same class of ships, build ships which could draw \$266,647,680 during the twenty years of their contract, making an aggregate of subsidies for shipping, based on foreign ships and the tonnage required on account of their registering, \$799,943,040. Of course, Mr. Griscom and the very competent head of their press bureau did not intend that the above statements should be brought together as a basis for estimating a part of the cost of the Hanna-Payne bill."

The men who planned that tremendous robbing of the people of these United States, by means of a statute, enacted by the representatives of these same people, are the same who are pushing the Indianapolis Monetary Commission, and the abominable *Final Report* which it has just published. Are those men more likely to be honest in this last scheme, than they were with this Hanna Shipping Bill; and this same Hanna has the control of this *Final Report*.

Are Newspapers subsidized to Keep the truth from the people.

Dr. Samuel Adams Robinson, whose expose of the Hanna-Payne Ship subsidy law was printed in the Congressional Record says:

"It has remained for those who advocate this bill to teach me that a large part of the press of the United States can be so muzzled as to make it well-nigh impossible to get the truth before the public. Only inability to get what I have said and will say in this circular to the people in the usual way has induced me to publish it in this manner."

"I (Robinson) know instances in which newspapers have been compelled by those advocating the bill to stop the publication of anything calculated to teach the people its true character. Men in very high positions have amazed me by their efforts to muzzle the press with regard to this bill."

"Indeed, I (Robinson) read a newspaper almost daily whose editor is to my certain knowledge very much opposed to the bill, while every issue of the paper advocates it and urges its passage."

"Whether this is done through the great advertising patronage of the railroads, steamships, and other corporate interests which are beneficiaries of the bill, or whether more specific and direct influence is necessary to secure it, I do not know; but I do know that never before in a long and busy life, during which I have always kept in reasonably close touch with the press of my country, have I had reason to suspect that the brutal power of capital and corporations could so suppress the truth."

At last vindication has come for the ground which the writer of BOOK NOTES held in 1893, concerning the control of Grand Juries and their duty in

action. Judge Wilbur refused to "permit" a Grand Jury to investigate matters not brought before it by the Attorney General; and so charged. The Appellate Court, in an opinion in the State vs. Snell, has now defined the law precisely as BOOK NOTES held that it should be. The defendant Snell demurred to the indictment upon several grounds, all of which were overruled and the indictment sustained. The Grand Jury had investigated a case, and brought an indictment where no action had first been brought by the proper officer. This is just what BOOK NOTES claimed, and which has now been affirmed by the court of final resort.

Opinion of court: "The first ground of demurrer is not well taken—it is immaterial so far as the indictment is concerned, whether the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture made the original complaint in the prosecution of the defendant, as the Grand Jury under its common laws power, and also under the provisions of the General Laws of Rhode Island, cap. 223, sec. 6, has full power to find an indictment, regardless of the source of complaint. Its powers, generally speaking, are co-extensive with the original criminal jurisdiction of the court of which it is a constitutional part."

This first ground was "that it nowhere appears affirmatively in the indictment that the complaint for the violation of the law was made by the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture."

Under the Dingley tariff for the protection of labor, a pocket knife sold at \$3.00 per dozen at Havana, is made in Connecticut; it is also brought here and sold to the Providence workingman at the rate of \$7.00 per dozen, and such legislation is called by Mr. E. C. Pierce "protecting" labor.

**How the holding of Deep water
Docks by corporations, or indi-
vidually robs the people,**

The result of the individual ownership of Docks is clearly shown in this extract from the Congressional Record, March 1899. It was in reference to that utterly abominable law by which men undertook to rob the people of eight hundred of millions dollars. The Hanna-Payne Ship subsidy law.

"More than 50 per cent. of the wharf and dock privileges of our Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf coasts, are owned by railroad corporations as terminals, while more than 32 per cent. of the remaining half is leased and controlled by railroads and shipping companies which work in harmony. The passage of this bill would lead to an alliance or trust embracing practically all of the transcontinental and trunk lines of railroad and the over-sea transportation interests which would be much the greatest monopoly the world has ever known. All our foreign trade would be concentrated at a few of the large ports, and the producer and his over-sea consumer would be at the mercy of the monopoly; individual enterprise would be powerless."

The Boston *Herald* informs us that a group of Boston men have obtained control of the Docks at Havana. So that neither men nor merchandise can leave the western end of the Island of Cuba save by paying these Boston men for the privilege. Right here in Providence the same thing is done, all deep water docks are in the hands of two or three individuals, or corporations; some are leased by unknown New York parties; concerning the pecuniary importance of Docks, the Providence *Journal* said a few days ago, "A duty fixed on both outgoing and incoming merchandise at Luzon would

be sufficient to financier the whole scheme of Philippine Government. Is it not just the same kind of a money leech here at Providence."

Cataloguing of works in the libraries is now a "profession." Here are a couple of specimens given by the London *Academy*, both are from official English catalogues. Under the subject "Lead," appears:

Lead.—Copper, Metallurgy
Kindly light (Newman)

Another entry runs as follows, the subject being "Mill:"

Mill.—Cotton, silk
on the floss (Eliot)
flax.

But the most comical specimen is from an American catalogue, from the *Christian Register*, January 5, 1899. The subject is a "Ship's Tackle:"

Rope.—Manila
tarred
wire
the Grandissimes (cable)

These are certainly comical, but BOOK NOTES could give many quite as comical from the catalogues of libraries right here in Providence.

The excellent execution of Mrs. Place ought to put an end to the barbarous inhumanity of imprisonment for life for crime. Electricity is the thing, neat, quick, cheap. It is time to abandon this nonsensical sentimentality concerning the death penalty. We have no right to inflict daily torture upon a convicted felon during an entire life and call it either charity or mercy. Far better would it be to send the condemned into another and better world, where he might improve upon the methods which in this world had so dreadfully afflicted people. Mrs. Place is the sixth woman found guilty of wilful murder in this country within a few months.

BOOK NOTES unfairly represented Senator E. L. Freeman in the matter of introduction to an amendment to a law concerning insurance companies, in its latest issue; and it did not state fairly the law as amended. BOOK NOTES followed, without a personal examination, the *Newport Herald*, which paper was wholly in error. This is, however, no excuse for the writer; he should have examined the case more closely before writing. There is absolutely no safety in following newspaper writers. The act which the *Herald* printed as being introduced by Senator Freeman at this session was really introduced by Senator Wilbur, now judge, in April, 1884. It was introduced April 11th (provided the *Providence Journal* is correct) by Senator Wilbur, and passed under a suspension of the rules.

The most recent Grand Jury brought in an indictment against one C. H. Hobson for "having carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of consent," and an indictment against one James Pickering for an "attempt to carnally know a girl under sixteen." Hobson was sentenced to eight years in the State prison, and Pickering was sentenced to three years in the same institution. This same Grand Jury brought an indictment against one Wm. Greene for "breaking and entering a barn." Greene was not brought into court on the day of the return of the indictment, but on a later day he appeared and pleaded *nolo*; sentence was deferred a bond of \$500 was required, and Greene is at large. At a Grand Jury in December, 1893, this same William Greene was indicted for the same offence which was brought against Hobson and Pickering. The writer was a member of the Grand Jury and listened to the evidence of the child—it was positively sickening—never before was I so

ashamed of my sex. Upon the return of the indictments Greene was brought before the court and pleaded *nolo*, sentence was deferred, a bond given, and the accused was set free. For this very same offence Hobson is now given by the same judge eight years, and Pickering three years in the State prison. Are there no men with young daughters left in the city. Greene now comes again before the court, acknowledging the committal of a crime for which the penalty is two years in prison, and the court again lets the accused go free. Do you call that even-handed justice? or what is it? The father of this young man, who seems to have such control of justice, is an officer of the police. The *Journal* of the 24th has this paragraph: "Officer Dutee Greene arrested Willie Douglas and Thomas Devereaux, two boys, whose parents live in the vicinity of Diamond street, on a charge of the larceny of two pies." The boy Douglas was sent to the reform school for two years; the other boy was held for trial." If these things are true, as the writer believes they are, a condition of things it shown which is subversive of all justice. There must be, and there will be an overturning; but something must be done with Grand Juries, as they are now "managed" they are an utter abomination and of no use whatever.

My most recent medical studies are quite interesting, and not without value. Everything below came from a standard English medical treatise of the present school exactly a hundred years old.

One of the most important remedies in use in former years in cases of quincy,—or, as it is now called, diphtheria,—was the white dung of dogs. So widely used was this favorite remedy that it was given many names. By some it was known as *Album Canis*, by others

Album Græcum In some places it was *Cynocprus*, in others *Griseum*, and in still others it was *Nihil Album*. These learned men tell us this singular remedy was "a discutient, and was to be applied to the inside of the throat in quinsies, mixed with honey."

Nyctalops.—One set of doctors define it as meaning "one who *can* see by night," another set define it as meaning "one who *cannot* see by night."

There are so many of us who can see by night, that some union of sentiment among "scientific" medical men should be arrived at, so that we should know whether we are *Nyctalops* or not.

To **Lightning**, these learned men gave the name *Astrape*, and they impress us that lightning "is among the pro-catacartic causes of epilepsy." Nevertheless these "scientists" failed to prescribe lightning rod; as specific remedies for that disease.

Bread baked twice these men called *Dipyrites* and sedately informed us that it was a specific remedy for all dropsies. Then dry toast must be a specific for *Hydrocele*.

A boil was called *Dothien* "a bile"—sometimes *Furunculus*, which men illustrated by telling us it was "a variety of phlogosis phlegemon," and this the learned Cullen gravely informs us is in the class *Pyrexia*.

Homonopagia we have so far degenerated as to call the headache, and when a glass of spring water is prescribed it was under the name of *Hydropage*.

The smaller the affliction, the greater the name. How is this, *Hygrobalepharicus*? "An epithet given to some ducts of emunctories discovered in the extreme edge, or inner part, of the eye lids"—gracious. I've had 'em for years! and never knew what a "big" thing I had.

A person who shivered was afflicted, so these learned men tell us, with *Phricasmus*.

One of two things ought to be done at once, business rents ought to be cut down 50 per cent., or the single tax applied to land lords.

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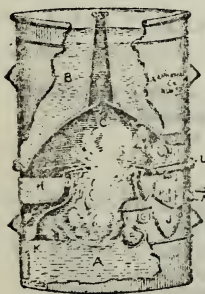
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SATURDAY, APR. 15, 1899.

VOL. 16.
No. 8.

Why Rhode Island Held Back in Adopting the Federal Consti- tution—An Essay by Prof.

Frank G. Bates.

Rhode Island was the last of the original thirteen colonies to adopt the Constitution of the United States, and the action has been long thrown at her as being something almost disgraceful, because of its steady persistence and duration. Until 1890 no attempt had been made by any Rhode Island scholar to explain the action of the Rhode Island people. In that year the Hon. Horatio Rogers, of the Supreme Court, handled the question in an address before the Historical Society. Previous to this time, the late Judge Staples had prepared for the State (in 1870) an elaborate "History of the Action of Rhode Island in the Matter of the Constitution." The admirable address by Judge Rogers had so great weight with Prof. Tyler of Cornell University, that the learned scholar suggested the subject as a thesis to Mr. Frank Greene Bates, then at his graduation at Cornell. The study then entered upon by Mr. Bates has now been concluded, and an elaborate essay entitled "Rhode Island and the formation of the Union," has been published. It is an octavo of upward of two hundred pages.

Mr. Bates declares his purpose "to ascertain the facts of Rhode Island's action from 1765 to 1790, and if possible to explain the fact that Rhode Island so long delayed her ratification of the Federal Constitution." He then divides the subject into six sections or chapters. The first gives a concise account of the formation of the colony, touching the structure of the early government and the political conditions evolved; and also the principles of religious liberty, which was the corner stone of her government: the time covered by this section is practically 1636 to 1765. The second section is entitled "A Period of Harmony," and covers the time from the Stamp Act, 1765, to the adoption of the Articles of Confederation by Rhode Island in 1778; the third section is entitled "A Period of Discord," and covers the time from 1778 to 1785 in which Rhode Island struggled to retain control over her commerce; which meant to hold the power to levy taxes upon her exports or imports, and which at last she was obliged to surrender. The fourth section is entitled "The Paper Money Era" which means the time which covered the Bank of 1786; which was practically 1780 to 1787, in some respects the darkest period in Rhode Island his-

tory. The fifth section is entitled "Rhode Island and the Constitution," and it covers the actions of this state for and against the constitution from the earliest movement in Maryland, 1785, to the adoption by Rhode Island in 1790. The sixth section is entitled "Conclusion;" it is practically a discussion by the author of the meaning of certain of the actions by Rhode Island. This is followed by an Appendix, which consists of the amendments proposed by the Rhode Island Convention which adopted the Constitution, and this in turn is followed by a Bibliography, which is quite exhaustive. Such is the structure of this admirable essay, which is in every way a credit to a young Rhode Island scholar. Mr. Bates was born at Shawomet, R. I., a student at the Mowry & Goff School in Providence, a graduate of Cornell University, and a post-graduate student and teacher at Columbia University, and now Assistant Professor of History at Alfred University.

The method is a model of orderly progress; step by step the story is told; nothing is taken at second hand, but a laborious original research has been made, and a straightforward and honest story has been told; that which was wrong is not wilfully withheld; nor is any attempt made to make that which was good appear better; it is a plain judicial judgment, worthy of all commendation. There are things in all historical compositions, which somehow slip past us, which make for error. I now propose to suggest re-examination of one thing. It is written (page 19) "the governor, deputy governor, assistants and deputies elected semi-annually by the towns." Would it not have been more proper to say, "elected by the freemen?" The towns, as towns, did not elect. The influence of the Rhode Island opposition in bringing forth the

first ten amendments, Prof. Bates thinks was very small. The writer once thought differently, and so expressed himself, but he was partly in error. The religious liberty clause, in the first amendment, must be traced here, and many of the other principles involved can be found in the Rhode Island Bill of Rights of 1647, but not in that set of bills of rights made by the Convention of 1790. There may be other slight errors, but if so they are not easily seen; a careful study of the essay must endorse the judgment herein expressed.

The study of the history of medicine, and of remedial agents, is certainly most curious as it illustrates the qualities of human minds. These are our latest: Here is a remedy from the *Pharmacopoeia Universalis*, or New English Dispensatory, by R. James, M. D., 3d edition, p. 252. *Alce, Offic. Schrod.*; and this is the manner in which the medical properties of this remedy were discovered: "It seems the elk is an American animal much subject to epileptic disorders; and it has been observed that it frequently scratches the head with its hind feet; this was believed to be done as a remedy for epilepsy; hence the hoof of the elk acquired a reputation as a remedy for that disease."

There is another remedy from the same doctor—*Pediculus Officinalis*—which means a "louse." Dr. James then informs us that lice are taken as a remedy for jaundice: and also for atrophy, which is a wasting away of the flesh "without the hectic."

There is still another remedy *Lumbricus terrestris*. The learned doctor informs us "they are good for tubercles of the lungs, and particularly useful in affections of the kidneys and urinary passages." These earth worms were distilled with water, or *spirits* and this

product, actually nothing but water, was held in great esteem. (*James's Dispensary*, p. 269.)

Who, in a rational state of mind, would think of applying *Lumbrici Terrestris* in a case of tubercles of the lungs; they are the red earth worms with which the boys catch fish in the country brooks.

Here is a remedy from Lewis's New Dispensary. "By Gentlemen of the Faculty at Edinburgh," *Limaces terrestris* "are recommended as a restorative in consumption when boiled in milk." (page 173.)

Here is a fine specimen of medical deduction. Dr. Hagstrom, a Swedish physician, "recollecting that certain celebrated professors held "that epidemic dysentery" was caused by animal-culæ was "led to imagine that *Nux vomica*, which was known to be fatal to large animals might equally be fatal to small ones." (*Motherby's Medical Dictionary*, p. 325.) This book, a folio, published in London, 1791, was of the exact time of the discovery of the preventive quality of matter, taken from a pustule on a cow, and injected into the flesh of a human being.

Then comes this from the most accomplished American Surgeon of these later years:

"That the blood of a person affected with constitutional syphilis is inoculable is clearly established by the fact that the disease has been repeatedly propagated from an infected to a sound person by vaccination; numerous cases of this form of infection occurred during the late war (1861-1864), and the outgrowth of the disease vacinio-syphilitic inoculation, has been made the subject of an elaborate and exhaustive essay by Professor Jones, of New Orleans. The sad effects of this mode of propagation syphilis are well illustrated in the cases that occurred at Rivalta in

Piedmont, when an infant that had been vaccrenated with infected matter communicated this terrible malady to his mother and (39) thirty-nine children; one of the children thus contaminated imparted the contagion to his wet nurse, and to (7) seven other children." (*Gross's System of Surgery*, v. 1, p. 312.) Professor Gross was of the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

The books from which all these things are taken are now for sale by us, and any person so desiring can set up practice.

These same old school doctors are constantly beseiging the General Assembly for laws obliging, *actually obliging*, men to accept their practice upon mere dogmas, one half of which are overthrown and abandoned every twenty years.

The *Commercial Advertiser*, of 24th March, has an article on New Trust Companies which reads like an extract from the history of the South Sea Bubble. "Literally speaking, it (one of the companies) has millions behind it, and the only question has been to decide on the stockholders and the amounts they should be permitted to subscribe." Concerning the second company, "All the capital has been subscribed, each subscription being limited by the Trust to \$50,000; some men wanted to subscribe \$500,000, and were glad to be allowed \$25,000." The *Commercial Advertiser* finds in this the *mutual or co-operative plan*." Just think of such nonsense, and that, too, in a Journal which considers itself at least respectable. It shows the utter rottenness and corruption of newspapers. Here is a paragraph from the history of the South Sea Bubble:

"It seemed as if the whole nation had turned stock jobbers; Exchange Alley was every day blocked by crowds, and

Cornhill was impassible for the number of carriages; everybody came to buy stocks; the inordinate thirst for gain had so afflicted society, that it was not to be slaked even with the South Sea; innumerable joint stock companies were everywhere started; they soon received the name of Bubbles;" the capital stock of the South Sea Company at the collapse was 37,800,000 pounds sterling; stock allotted to proprietors, 24,500,000 pounds sterling; the remainder was profit, the larger part of which was seized by the Government and given to the losers. The loss to the English people by this single company was upwards of 126,000,000 pounds sterling, equal to about \$630,000,000. Besides this company there were at the collapse 86 other bubbles in existence, and petitions to Parliament for 18 new ones. The trusts of our own days are the freshest exemplifications of the South Sea Bubble, for, while, at sundry times, there have been such projects, nothing at all comparable have existed, until the trusts came. The Mississippi Scheme was contemporary with the South Sea Company, the first in France, the last in England, and covering the years 1716-1720.

The collapse came on the 7th of April, when the values in trust stocks shrunk in two hours (so the N. Y. Herald says) between 75 millions and a hundred millions of dollars.

Mr. Edward Bok in the March *Ladies Home Journal* tells the secret of success in writing as follows:

"The way to write is first to have something to say, and then say it as well as you can. That is all there is about it. If what you say is something which the world wants to hear, an editor will find it out quick enough when you send him the manuscript. So far as "a chance to be heard" is con-

cerned, there is plenty of chance? The question is: Have you something worthy of a chance? That you can only find out by sending your manuscripts to editors. "Influence" counts for nothing in a magazine office; the only thing that "counts" is what there is in a manuscript."

The only true words in that story are the first eleven. All the others are the meekest nonsense.

BOOK NOTES for March 18th printed a poetical epitaph from the tombstone of a slave, which was said to be near Providence. The following letter from the Rev. Dr. E. W. Maxcy gives the history of the poem, the locality of the tomb, or what was its locality, for it has now disappeared—cold type only, outlasts time.

TROY, N. Y., March 29, 1899.

My Dear Mr. Rider:

I notice in BOOK NOTES of the 18th inst. a reference to an inscription over the grave of a worthy colored man who died many years since, and of whose resting place there was supposed, it seems, to be no record.

On p. 30 of "The Literary Remains of the Rev. Dr. Jonathan Maxcy," a former President of Brown University, edited by Dr. Romeo Elton, a professor in that institution, and published by A. V. Blake, in New York in 1845, there is a reference to the epitaph above mentioned. It was written by the father of President Maxcy.

In the "Sketch of the History of Attleborough, by the late John Daggett, Esq.," 2d edition edited and completed by his daughter, (Boston: Samuel Usher, 1894) pp. 727, 728, is the record which states that the subject of this notice was given by his mother to Lieut. Josiah Maxcy, on whose death he became (according to the usage of those years) the property of Mr. Maxcy's son

Levi. He was a member of the Baptist Church of North Attleboro, well known in that locality, and honored and respected for his uprightness and fidelity. On his death on January 15, 1780, he was buried in the same grounds with his first master. The stone to which your article referred was erected by his younger master. It was of what is called black slate. Some time since it crumbled and was removed, but I remember seeing it in my boyhood in the "Old North Burying Ground" in Attleboro on the easterly side of what was known as the Boston & Providence turnpike.

Yours sincerely,

EATON W. MAXCY.

The danger to the public by the handling of grandjuries by the Attorney General has been clearly pointed out by the writer from his own personal experience. The case of Molineux, now celebrated, emphasizes these conditions. Never was the outrageous treachery of lawyers more clearly seen. Look at the scheme, for mere money, set up by one Colyar, a lawyer from Nashville, Tenn.

Before such infernal legal rascality there is no escape for a poor man. But the action of the New York judges has been almost sublime.

People of moderate incomes who are looking toward building or beautifying their homes will find the series of articles on these subjects now running through the *Woman's Home Companion* of great practical value. The April number gives an architect's plans for a \$3,500 house, with two pages of illustrations showing how to beautify the grounds.

It is a curious circumstance that men are engaged here in making two things which we cannot see, and without which we cannot see—for the city would be in darkness nearly one-half of every twenty-four hours—gas and electricity.

It is a circular singumstance that the Day and Knight land on Westminster street has been leased for a Vaudeville Theatre which runs day and night.

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Binney's Oration on Death of Abraham Lincoln. 4to. Providence, 1865 Large Paper. 25 copies. This is No. 2. \$2.00

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Drowne, Solomon. Journal, 1870, War Sloop Hope. N. Y. 1872. 25 copies printed. \$2.00

Phillis Wheatley (Negro Slave Poet of Boston). Her Letters. 1864. 100 copies printed. \$1.25

John Smith. True relation of Virginia. Book 1866. 280 copies printed. \$3.50

Major Andre. Minutes Court of Inquiry. Albany 1865. 100 copies printed. This is number 78. \$2.50

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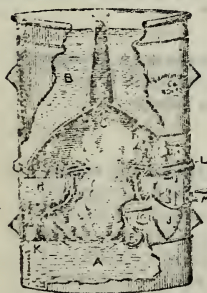
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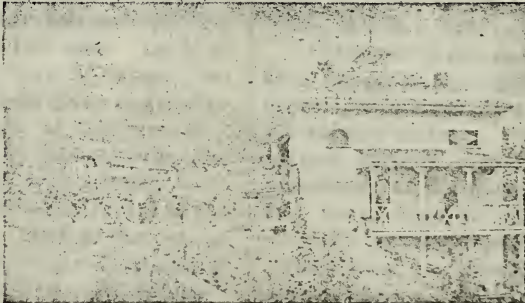
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No. 9.

The writer has been informed upon the very best authority that more than one half the actions at law against men now here instituted are fraudulent under the law. He has personally had actual experience in four such cases--another case was wrecked by the stupid ignorance of a member of the bar, who positively did not know how to draw a declaration, but took all the money received. When I wished to punish such obstreperous rascality, not a lawyer here could be found who would prosecute his "brother." But look at the rush of lawyers to defend the murderer, Palmer. Look at the Colyar case in New York, where out of nothing Heckmann was to be sent as an escaped criminal to Nashville, and not a particle of foundation for the case. Look at the terrible case here of Ellen Cosgrove, which has been given in detail in BOOK NOTES. Look at the case of a lawyer employed by Mrs. George, the murderer of Saxton, who actually testified to being consulted in regard to the proposed murder. Look at the case of Campbell, indicted for grand larceny in New York, by "To Hell with Reform" Gardiner. Upon the trial, Judge Blanchard instructed the jury thus:

"This case illustrates what I said to the March Grand Jury about the reck-

less and illegal use of the Grand Jury for private purposes. There is no evidence in this case against the defendant whatever."

Look at this from Philadelphia: one H. K. Newitt, ex-Assistant District Attorney, is charged with bribing an officer, and held under heavy bonds; and since has come the arrest of Ingham the U. S. Dist Attorney under President Harrison.

The packing of juries here has long been a fact well understood by those nearest the courts, while the treachery of lawyers taking one side and flopping to the other is laughingly told in the daily papers. In regard to these fraudulent actions Judge Cowing of New York, said in a recent case:

"These courts are too often resorted to by people to vent spite and to collect debts. We are not here to give private individuals revenge. Therefore when a witness appears, where money is the foundation of the charge, you usually find he is there to use the criminal process to collect the debt."

How long are men going to stand such outrageous perversions of justice by those sworn to perform only justice?

These infamous transactions are all very recent and all in this country; half of them are actually here in Providence.

Recently I fell upon the following in the Memoirs of the very learned Doctor Trusler: "There cannot be a more exalted character than that of an advocate arguing the cause of truth and justice, in pleading in defence of oppressed innocence; on the other hand, there cannot be a more contemptible man, nor one guilty of a more execrable act than he who labors to disguise facts, colors falsehood with the semblance of truth, and takes pains to countenance or support the oppressor; such a man deserves to be handed down with the name of a liar." What can be said in defence of a lawyer who takes my case and then sells himself to my opponent?

The admirable housekeeping rules taught in the Public Cooking Schools are something little known by those of us who have to stumble through life without them. Just think how we missed it in never knowing how to build a fire in the kitchen? Here's how the children are taught:—1, bring kindlings and coal; 2, build a fire; 3, open the dampers; 4, brush the stove; 5, black the stove; 6, light the fire. It is quite evident that some method has been discovered of building a fire without lighting it (rule 6); but several very important directions are here omitted, only to be suggested when it is too late to use them. Why, after a fire has been lighted, is the pupil told to "push *crumpled soft* paper at, or over, the bottom of the box." Another important omission the rules disclose: the pupil is not told with what to light a fire, nor to wash her hands—only girls are here taught; no instructions are given in cleaning lamps, but the child is told to "polish the silver when necessary; the child is to "put away clean dishes" before she is told how to wash those which need washing. How dishes to be washed are to be "collected" and placed

"on a right of the sink," no exception being made for left-handed women—then comes this very important direction in the matter of washing knives. "Knives with wooden, bone or ivory handles should never be placed in water." Would it not answer quite as well to put the *knife* in water and keep the handle out—whoever wrote these valuable rules, should have shown the child how to wash the blade of a knife *without* water. Some school committeeman must own Sapolio, for steel knives are to be cleaned with it; to clean boards they must be "wet with a brush and Sapolio rubbed on them," and saucepans are to be scoured with Sapolio—the child is told to scour the knives and forks, especially the forks, in case they are silver-plated, or even solid—very valuable directions are given on "how to wring clothes"—"turn the right hand from you and the left toward you," then "twist it until dry"—Of course, it must be dried by twisting, never hung up for that purpose.

But one thing taught had better be untaught and that is, that the children are taught not to rinse with clean scalding water, dishes just out of greasy dishwater.

In order to carry on such an admirable sham the regular studies in the school term have been abridged two weeks; but the children like it, it saves study, and is nothing but "play." All schools close about the middle of June. In my time they ran to the middle of July.

The *Ladies' Home Journal* for May is a truly wonderful periodical. It has an excellent paper on Listening to a Sermon, by Ian Maclaren; the beginning of a new story by Anthony Hope; the Anecdotal Side of George Washington; the Prairie Girl's Wedding; a most in-

teresting account of Helen Kellar; the cleverness, beauty and taste in dress of the American girl; the Daily Work of an Actress; the Prettiest of the Summer Hats; Motherhood as a Profession; the Secrets of a Happy Life; How Three Famous Tricks are Done; the Gossip of a New York Girl; New Dress Fronts and Collars; May's Pageant of Wild Flowers; How to be Pretty, Though Plain; the Prettiest Country Homes in America; Mrs. Rorer's Little Dinners; the Home Practical; Rustic Arbors and Summer Homes. Now, just think of such a table of contents! for these are merely the headings of excellent papers, and all illustrated with beautiful engravings, portraits, hats, collars, homes, rustic Arbors, interior decorations, the setting of dinner tables, useful, but little known kitchen utensils, and all for ten cents. It is truly magnificent! There are 188 beautiful illustrations.

Rhode Island has the distinction of having the largest per capita debt of any New England State. Here are the figures: Maine, \$23.60; New Hampshire, \$21.64; Vermont, \$11.39; Massachusetts, \$36.42; Rhode Island, \$37.75; Connecticut, \$31.76. Next to Maryland Rhode Island has the largest per capita debt of any State in the United States. Here are the figures: Maryland, \$40.46; Rhode Island, \$37.75. This means the State, City and County debts, added and divided among the people. That which makes the matter worse is that Rhode Island has no undeveloped resources excepting *Trusts* and *Franchises*.

Just as the battle of Austerlitz was opening Napoleon said to his front rank, "Soldiers, the enemy has exposed himself we shall finish this war with *un éclat de tonnerre*," and that is what the *Century* has done. The *Century's* plans for the

treatment of the Spanish War culminate with the publication in the May number of a remarkable series of papers in which the commander of every American vessel but one, describes his share in the battle off Santiago, which resulted in the complete destruction of Cervera's fleet. The only exception is in the case of the *Oregon*, whose commander, Capt. Clark, endorses Lieut. Eberle's account of that ship's participation in the fight, and himself contributes a criticism of the Spanish Admiral's strategy. "The Story of the Captains" is written with remarkable animation and in wholly untechnical language.

A Benjamin Franklin imprint, *Anti-Pedo Rantism*, or Mr. Samuel Finley's charitable plea for the speechless ex-amsued and refuted: The Baptism of Believers maintained and the mode of it by Immersion Vindicated, by Abel Morgan, at Middletown in East Jersey. Philadelphia, Printed by B. Franklin, in Market street, 1747, pp. 160, with an appendix to the foregoing WORK being REMARKS on some Particulars in a late Pamphlet, "Divine Right of INFANT BAPTISM," written by another hand. Philadelphia. Printed by B. Franklin, 1747, pages 161-174, and followed by an *Errata* one (1) page.

The Century Company sends to BOOK NOTES with permission to use it, a Chapter of Rudyard Kipling's *Captains Courageous*, now in process of publication in the Century. BOOK NOTES is so small that it has not space to print the admirable chapter. There is not in any of Kipling's books a chapter of equal length with so much dash and vigor as this description in *Captains Courageous*, of Harvey Cheyne's rush across the continent, to meet the son whom he mourned as dead. This is said to have been based on a "record"

trip between the same points—San Diego, California, and Boston, Mass.,—made by a western railway president in 1895. Mr. Kipling's description shows a knowledge of American railway men and methods, as well as of American character.

Mr. O. F. Williams, U. S. Consul at Manila writes concerning the health conditions there to the Department of State; he gives this concerning smallpox, "In filthy quarters smallpox may be found almost every day, but few deaths result. The sanitary measures of the present government have been of the greatest benefit, the death rate is small and it is only necessary to live properly to be entirely healthy." In heaven's name why not at once *vaccinate* the poor devils? It will help exterminate the "insurrections" and give the doctors something to do. Cow-pox matter is a great thing for injecting into human beings.

A Trustee of Estates, or who desires to be, here in Providence who invests funds in the Lubec Gold Sea Water scheme, demonstrates his fitness for such a position; he must be one of those individuals who believe in long-time bonds at low rates of interest, with the additional idea that no intelligent thief would steal them.

Why the "help" in the cotton mills struck upon an increase of wages is the question which everybody is asking. The *Journal* has unwittingly given these explanatory reasons. "At Lowell the men assert that while their wages have been increased, they are required to attend more looms, and in this way they more than make up the increase" (*Journal*, April 8). "At Slatersville a slight increase has been given, but the "cuts" have been increased in length

twelve (12) yards" (*Journal*, April 5). In the case of the Arctic mill, where a portion of the "Help" went in, the *Journal* said, without conditions favorable to the men. The *Boston Herald* said, the "cuts" were to be not over 48 1-2 yards long. which was correct I do not know, but in either case there is a "moral."

An excellent encyclopædia for family use, or for children in the High School, or in the Grammar Schools; published at \$48.00, bound in half turkey morocco; actually the latest work of the kind. Can be bought at 52 Snow street, BOOK NOTES' office, for \$8.00; positively \$40.00 less than it cost the original subscriber.

A William Goddard imprint. A Brief Illustration and Confirmation of the Divine Right of Infant Baptism in a plain and familiar DIALOGUE between a minister and one of his parishioners, by John A. Dickinson, A. M., minister of the Gospel at Elizabeth Town, and President of the college in New Jersey. Providence, in New England. Printed and sold by William Goddard, 1763, pp. 42, with an appendix pp. 4.

The publisher of BOOK NOTES will give \$2.00 for a copy of *John Whopper* in good condition.

The Crahan Engraving Company, 193 Westminster street, sends BOOK NOTES some beautiful specimens of their Half Tone, Photo Line and "wood" work. This company make cuts for all printing purposes.

The *Boston Herald* is, of course, a profoundly wise and honest newspaper. It talks "Independent," but always supports the Republican nominees. In a recent issue it pitches into the *Atlanta Constitution* because it (the *Constitution*), endorses the Chicago platform saying, "It must stand as the great Democratic truth." Then the *Herald*

says, "If the politicians of the Republican party were allowed to make the Democratic platform, they could not devise anything better for their own purposes." In my simplicity I cannot see what the *Herald* has to complain against the *Atlanta Constitution*. That paper is doing just what the *Herald* wishes it to do, and then gets damned by the *Herald* for doing it.

On the question of forcing the payment of the Cuban real estate mortgages the *Journal* of 17th April has this anarchistic paragraph: "The protection of the creditor class is desirable, but it would be madness to allow the creditors in this case to descend upon the Cubans for what is owed them. The mortgages can be extended a few years under favorable conditions and this will just as thoroughly settle the problem as would a complete revolution in realty."

Those who have read and laughed over John Kendrick Bangs' "Coffee and Repartee," are missing the best sayings of those droll characters, the Idiot, the Pedagog and the Bibliomaniac, if they fail to follow the career of the "Idiot at Home," now running as a serial in the *Woman's Home Companion*. In the May number the Idiot discourses upon his pet hobbies, women and children. The May issue of this beautiful periodical consisted of 325,000 copies.

BOOK NOTES would not for the world give anybody uneasiness; but if a street sign could be put on Barnes street, on the Prospect street end, it would facilitate the work of a stranger. As it is now Barnes street is a continuation of Jenckes street.

There comes from B. R. Tucker, publisher, New York, a beautiful book of poetry bearing the title, "The Ballads of Reading Gaol," by C. 3. 3. This enigmatic name stands for Oscar Wilde, who was some years a prisoner. This poem attracted much attention in England, and in this country two publishers have issued editions. The composition is indeed poetry, it touches the pro-

foundest emotions, and it possesses almost a weird, certainly a romantic interest. There is nothing weak or simplifying in it, everything is strong; but in the measure of crimes, that is, the comparative measurements of crimes, there seems to be some defect in the moral line, and yet BOOK NOTES hesitates in affirming that beneath it lies not some profound truth.

It is proposed to open at the Kingston College of Agricultural and Mechanic Arts, a "Rhode Island Summer School for Nature Study." It will be held two weeks, from July 5 to 19, and will consist of lectures and excursions in the beautiful Narragansett country, to the great pecuniary and intellectual advantage of all Rhode Island teachers. Send for the conditions to T. W. Field, chairman, Kingston. R. I.

Almon D. Hodges, Jr., Esq., now of Boston, formerly of Providence, has reprinted his "Notes of Roger Williams," which appeared in the *New England Historical Gen. Register* for Jan. 1899. These notes are in consideration of three undecided things concerning Roger Williams: Date of his birth; date of his death, and the maiden name of his wife Mary. It is nearly a complete gathering of all at present known facts.

It is indeed a pleasing spectacle to every man who desires sound and honest government to see "To Hell with Reform" Gardiner, District Attorney of New York city, announce Recorder Goff, chief of the Court of General Sessions to be a liar.

The election of Mayor S. M. Jones, at Toledo, Ohio, running himself as an Independent against both the Republican and Democratic nominees, has attracted attention. Out of a total vote of 24,000 Jones received 17,000. He came the other day to one of the numerous Bryan dinners at New York, where he delivered a speech on "Municipal Franchises," using these words touching men who *only work for a living*; "And this is freedom! this, under the best government on earth; this is liberty, is it? liberty of what? liberty to live on a crust! liberty to live the life of a dog!"

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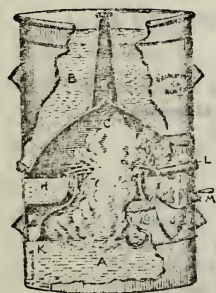
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SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1899.

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No. 10.

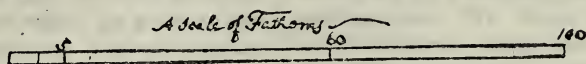
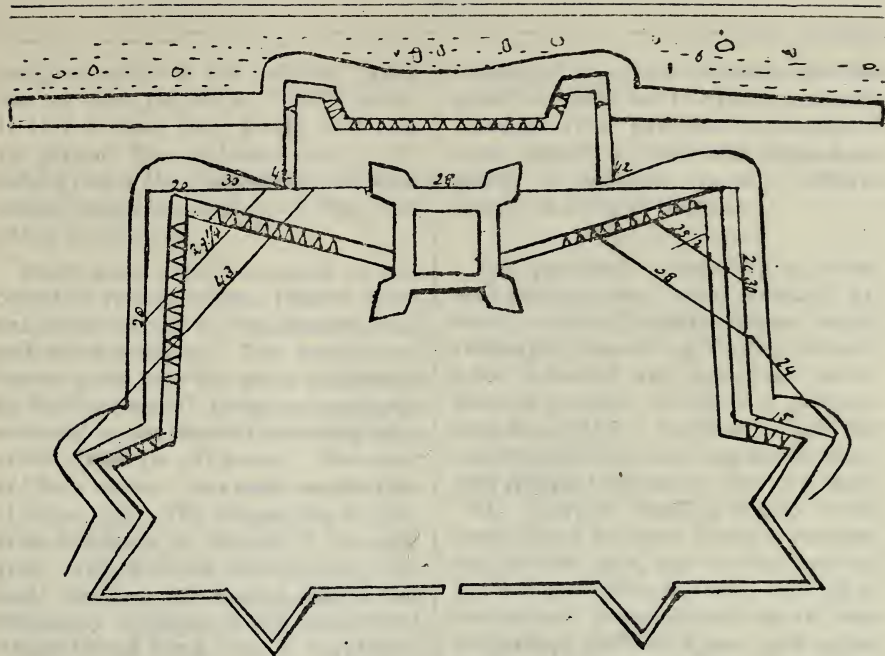
The "Revolutionary Defences of Rhode Island" is the title given to an elaborate historical treatise by Mr. Edwin Field, published in 1896. The same subject was treated by Gen. G. W. Cullum in a pamphlet in 1884, entitled "Fortification Defences of Narragansett Bay since 1638," which pamphlet was reprinted in the *Magazine of American History* for April, 1884. Mr. Field has drawn upon Gen. Cullum's sketch for both facts and for illustrative sketches, as he very properly has upon every source; but credit ought in all cases to be given, even if for nothing more, in order to protect the author himself. A great many illustrations are given, which, to the writer possess small value for the reason that authenticity is lacking. For instance, the frontispiece, the Providence Beacon, comes from no original picture; it is a sketch from fancy, and such pictures do not possess "historical" value. So likewise with Prospect Hill Fort, p. 73. Mr. Field took it from Stone's *Our French Allies*; and Mr. Stone took it from the "memory" of Mr. Z. Allen, who was not born until twenty years after the fort had been abandoned. Such "history" is tradition. So, too, with Fort Liberty, p. 80. This fort was on Goat Island. It was first Fort Anne, then Fort George, and

finally Fort Liberty. And this is the illustration which Mr. Field has given from a map of Newport made, as he writes (p. ix) in 1776:



But this design can bear small resemblance to the work itself. This fort was at much cost rebuilt under the orders of the Colonial Government by several commissions during the time 1756-1762. In the papers left by one of these Commissioners, Caleb Carr was found an original drawing, used in this reconstruction. It was first copied by Dr. David King of Newport in 1850, and is now here preserved.

That this is authentic history can be shown by the outline drawing on the Blaskowitz chart, made in 1777; and still further by the 6th illustration given by Gen. Cullum in his "Fortifications of Narragansett Bay," as the fort was rebuilt in 1795. The sea face is almost identical with these original lines.



On page 124 Mr. Field gives the forts and batteries existing in 1777 on Narragansett Bay, according to the Blaskowitz chart. As given, Mr. Field must have taken them from Gen. Cullum's sketch, page 10, but he has failed to include Gen. Cullum's next paragraph, which says that he (Cullum) has not included the batteries at Fox, Sassafra, Fields, Kettle, Bullock's and Warwick Points—which are all on the Blaskowitz chart. We will give the facts just as Mr. Blaskowitz has given them upon his admirable chart, for it is evident that Mr. Field has not consulted the chart. It presents the following list of batteries in Narragansett Bay in 1777:

- A Providence Fort.
- B Pappasquash Battery.

- CC Bristol Ferry Batteries.
- DD Howland's Ferry Batteries.
- E Goat's Island Fort.
- F Dyre's Point Battery.
- G Dumpling Rocks Battery.
- H Bristol Battery.

It also presents *Earthworks* at these places:

- Brenton's Point. Pappasquash.
- Warwick Neck. Bullock's Point.
- Field's Point. Kettle Point.

Blaskowitz also locates, a "Strong Fort to defend Providence by water," between Fox and India Points. He also locates, "Breast Works," on Lyon's shore, north of Kettle point "commanding the navigation up to Providence and calculated for a shelter for men with small arms but without cannon";

and also works at the extreme point, but not upon the hill at Field's point. If this is true then Robin Hill Fort (p. 58) and Fort Independance (p. 62) belong just as Mr. Field admits that their names belong to a later epoch than that of the Revolution.

These notes are not intended to be a complete review of Mr. Field's book, but simply things of importance here and there selected. The erection of beacon poles here was not a suggestion by the Continental Congress, promptly endorsed by the General Assembly here, as Mr. Field, (p. 42) states. The order to "fix a beacon" was made on the 28th of June, 1775. The suggestion of Congress was made in October of the same year. The light was finished and trial made on the 17th August, which fact effectually disposes of the theory that Rhode Island acted upon a suggestion of Congress. The fault with Mr. Field's work is that too often he leaves us to infer a fact which he gives no evidence to authenticate. Such an instance is Fort Independence, of which he says: "No mention is made on the record of this period." So too with Robin Hill Fort; he says: "The result of a portion of this labor by the inhabitants has been called Robin Hill Fort." So, too, it is with a fort at Beaver Tail, (p. 117). There is no probability that it was ever constructed, for in four months after the order the British fleet sailed by Beaver Tail unmolested.

On page 74 Mr. Field gives mention of Fort Sullivan, here in Providence, where Chestnut Street now is. No other book (save BOOK NOTES) mentions this fact, for no former writer knew it. And for it Mr. Field is indebted to the present writer, who discovered the fact, with the authority, gave it to Mr. Field, and printed an account in BOOK NOTES, vol. 12 page 182 in 1895; a year before the publication of his book. Courtesy

demand the same recognition that was given to others, and this more especially since the writer gave him knowledge of a fact which no other man living ever knew. It was about the only hitherto unknown thing in the book.

It is positively astounding to know, that there are men in the General Assembly who will enact a law so dangerous as that concerning Trading Stamps; a law so framed, and time given individuals to prepare, to enable a political ring to carry on a business which the statute itself says shall not be tolerated. The *Newport Herald* of May 4th says: "The Newport Trading Stamp Company, which has been doing a flourishing business here, has received word of the new law which has been enacted at the General Assembly and which does not go into effect for a year with existing contracts and with those contracts which are for a longer time the law does not interfere. Mr. Page, of the local establishment, when seen last night showed a number of contracts that extend for a period of ten years which were made before the new law governing green trading stamps was enacted and these contracts are as good as ever. The local office has between forty and fifty contracts ranging from five to ten years and many more for one year, which the law does not effect."

The *Review of Reviews*, for May has an article on "Our Delegation to the Hague" in the matter of the Czar's Peace conference giving five portraits of Mr. Andrew D. White and one each for the other Americans. The second member of the delegation is Stanford Newell a "Typical Western Citizen" which has some interest to Providence people. This gentleman was a son of Stanford Newell one of the Founders of the Franklin Foundry and Machine

Company, a man far beyond the average in practical intellectual capacity. He was President of the Mechanics and Manufacturers Bank. He died here in 1843. In 1855 the entire Family moved away from Providence to St. Anthony Minnesota, from which place the present minister now comes. Henry Wheaton, a Rhode Islander was once U. S. minister at the same place. The editor of the Review speaks of Mr. Newell as being well supplied with legal law, thoroughly grounded in American political and economic history, and interprets the world's history from the American viewpoint.

Robert Barr, in the first of a series of papers on his Travels and Troubles in the Orient, tells some stirring stories of American "guns that can speak Turkish." "Life would not be worth living along these shores if it were not for the American cruisers, . . . which do many things that fail to appear in the official dispatches." Just how United States Naval officers sometimes deal with troublesome Turks, Mr. Barr tells in THE SATURDAY EVENING POST of May 13.

The destruction of the American Elms around the Public Library was neither more nor less than vandalism. They were fine specimens of this the finest of trees, of forty years growth; and then to replace with the gingko. It was the work of jingoes, by jingo. Then to think that L. W. Russell advocated the act!!

The *Journal* of May 2 has a letter from the Brown & Sharpe Company addressed to the editor, which reads. "In your columns this morning you speak of us, etc., etc." "This statement is an untruth totally unwarranted by the facts and inspired we believe by parties

aiming to fool the minds of the public." The President of the Corporation which publishes the *Journal*, and the President of the Brown & Sharpe Company, is one and the same person, *he*, at least must *know* whereof he speaks; can it be possible that he allows his *Journal* to be used to *fool the minds of the public*; and he has just given the writer a verbal castigation because these poor little BOOK NOTES have sometimes hinted at such things.

In mentioning the fact that a new socialist paper. "*The Proletarian*" was to be published, the editor of the *Journal* (May 1st 1899) says this is chiefly important for the reason that members of this political party do not know that papers published for the promotion of special causes in this country are peculiarly unprofitable, just as such books are. Exactly, now just let BOOK NOTES suggest to this very learned writer. *The Liberator*, Mr. Garrison's paper; considering the results it accomplished, it must have "paid" like the very d—l. So too with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The *Journal* measures the probability of success for reforms in an exact ratio to their possibility, as money making schemes. It must have paid *in money* to set free four millions of slaves. This Editor is a very learned man.

The *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for May, has a mention of Mr. Sidney Lee's paper in *Cornhill* on the First Folio Shakespeare in which Mr. Lee bewails the fact that "this country (England) is being rapidly drained of its first Folios by Americans" and then follows. "It is also to be recorded that the great collection formed by Mr. Halliwell-Phillips, the Biographer of Shakespeare left this country in January 1897 when it became the property of Mr. Martin T. Perry, of Providence R. I.

U. S. A. It was an untimely typographical error. Our townsman Mr. Marsden J. Perry has, if not the best collection of Shakespeariana in existence, one which stands second to no other, and in collecting it he was his own bibliographer.

The *Journal* of May 1st 1899 in speaking editorially of the adjudication of a case in New York City "suggests that there may be one law for the poor and another for the rich." Well, what is that to you, you were founded and perpetuated upon just that principle. The *Journal* stands now where it has always stood, not for "a government of the people, for the people, by the people," but for a government by corporations, for corporations. From its beginning until this day it stands for the enrichment of a class, by the labors of men.

The earliest Stamp Tax law made by the United States was "an act laying duties on Licenses for selling wine." It was enacted by Congress on June 5th, 1794; It provided for a License for one year upon payment of Five Dollars, and it further provided that the "licenses shall be marked or stamped with a mark or stamp denoting the sum of duty thereupon." Two days before the enactment of this License Stamp Law, a Carriage License Law was enacted (29th May 1794) but it was repealed the following February or March. These carriage licenses did not bear stamps. (Laws of U. S. vol. 3 pp. 77-78, 1796). Two impressions of this stamp have recently fallen into the hands of the writer, one on a license bearing date Sept. 1794; the other Sept. 1795; they are different from each other; both are five dollars stamps embossed by a press, according to the ancient method. They are of the greatest interest to stamp collectors, being the

first stamp ever legally adopted by the United States. The law provided but a single denomination \$5.00; one of these impressions has the initials of the Die Cutter F. B. (Francis Bailey) upon it (1794); the other has not the design, in which the initials were interwoven (1795); no stamp collector has yet been found here who has ever heard of this stamp, nor knows anything of these details.

"To Hell with Reform" Gardiner, District Attorney of New York city, together with his assistants, ought to be indicted for conspiracy in attempting to destroy a citizen.

If you have any doubts that a business boom exists in Providence, just look at the advertised sales of mortgaged houses—and then at the thousands of empty houses and tenements—and then at the 48 empty shops on Westminster and Washington streets—and then at the empty machine shops—at the shrinking bank capital, and at the falling rate of interest. If these are not signs of booms, what are they?

The Century will issue three special numbers during the summer: June, "Out-of-doors Number"; July, "The Story-tellers' Number"; and August, "Midsummer and Travel Number." An article by Henry van Dyke on "Fisherman's Luck," and a dozen striking pictures of Niagara Falls by the artist Castaigne, are two of the features of the June issue.

The "spitting" ordinance is the most "important" "health" reform yet accomplished by the State Board of Health. The tremendous danger to public health which "rises" from dried "expectorations" suggests the wonder how the spitters continue to exist.

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No. 11.

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SOWAMS.

A reviews of Mr. Bicknell's History of Barrington.

The town of Barrington was set off from Swansea by the Massachusetts colony in 1717. In 1746 the land on the east of Narragansett Bay was under a Decree of the King of England, given to the Colony of Rhode Island, to which Colony under the Charter of Charles the Second it, of right belonged. Rhode Island in 1747 incorporated the town of Warren, and included the former town of Barrington. In 1770 Barrington was set off from Warren and then first became one of the Rhode Island towns. It had in 1774 a population of 601, which in eight years declined to 534; there were but two other towns in the Colony then with so few inhabitants; and it still remains among the least densely populated towns in the state; there are but three towns with smaller areas. Concerning this very small, and quite recent town, Mr. Bicknell has written an immense volume; no town history in this state is at all comparable in size; it is a large octavo volume of 620 pages, and 64 page engravings. Nor was there ever so large an edition of a Rhode Island Town History ever printed, the edition

was 2000 copies, while the entire population of the town is only 1600.

It must be an evidence of advancing years that I cannot now find it, but somewhere in one of his "Tatlers," Mr. Richard Steele discourses of criticism, and especially of that kind of criticism in which ones excellencies are faintly set forth, while ones imperfections are unmercifully exposed. In this review of Mr. Bicknell's History of Barrington, which I am about to write, I would avoid either extreme. Nevertheless the gauge of all historical work must be the truth; and it hence becomes the thankless task of all historical criticism, to point out such variations from the correct statements of fundamental facts as the writers discover. I cannot escape this penalty. In 1870 Mr. Bicknell delivered a Historical address, at the Centennial of Barrington. This Address was subsequently enlarged into a volume, and became actually a Town History, and so it has been always considered; but now it has been extended to at least twenty times its former size.

In order to divert from Mr. Bicknell's History any injury which might arise from my criticism, let me preface this paper with that which other men have said in commendation. "You

have set a new standard for local histories," *Judge Rogers*; "Your handsome History of Barrington," *Prof. Jameson*; "Of inestimable value," *Georgiana Guild*; "The story is told in chronological order without that tiresome repetition so often found in similar works," *Edward Field*; "It is the only real town history yet written in our State," *James M. Arnold*; "An ideal town history," *W. W. Tooker*; "So interesting and instructive," *J. J. Allen*; "I value it most highly," *Dr. C. V. Chapin*; "It is a full, clean, careful record of a town," *Journal*; "The book is well written and admirably arranged," *Mayor Baker*; "In behalf of the R. I. Historical Society, I thank you as a historian," *Amos Perry*; "A noble contribution to town literature," *R. A. Guild*; "It will ever be considered a model town history," *J. S. Brayton*. Far be it from my purpose to set myself in antagonism to all these writers; I shall only test for the truth by examination. The object, apparently undertaken, was, first to make the narrative a vehicle to celebrate the recent inhabitants by portraits and sketches; and second to take the Indian name, Sowams, which has for nearly two centuries been applied to Warren, and give it to Barrington. Let me enter upon a consideration of this second question.

Beginning at page 47 Mr. Bicknell says, "Hopkins and Winslow were dispatched on a visit to Sowams," in March, 1621. It is not true. The authority is Bradford and Winslow's *Journal*, otherwise known as Mourt's Relation; printed in London in 1622. It reads, "It seemed good to send some of the company to Massasoyt, partly to know where to find him, to see their strength, and discover the country," (Young's *Chronicles*, Plym. p. 202). The *Journal* continues, "After, we came to a

town of Massasoyt's, where we eat oysters and other fish; from thence we went to Packanokick, but Massasoyt was not at home; there we stayed, he being sent for," (Young's *Chronicles*, Plym. p. 208). Nothing is here said about Sowams, and certainly the home of Massasoit was at Pokanoket. Mr. Bicknell's whole statement (pp. 47-48), is seriously at variance with the *Journal*; for instance, he gives the date of the visit as being in March, whereas it was in July. The salute he gives at Sowams, whereas the *Journal* fixes it at Pokanoket, etc. Mr. Bicknell then gives an elaborate account of Winslow's visit to Massasoit when the latter was sick, taken wholly from the *Journal* aforesaid, but this significant paragraph is omitted, "That night through the earnest request of Conbatant, who till now remained at Sowaams, or Puckanokick, we stayed at Mattapuyst (Young's *Chron.* p. 324).

The earliest mention in recorded history of the name of Sowams, or its variations, occurs in the Patent granted to Plymouth settlers, 13th January, 1629. The phrases are, "The mouth of the said river called Narragansetts river to the utmost limits and bounds of a country or place in New England called Pokanocutt, *alias* Sowamsett;" again, "as the utmost limits of the said place commonly called Pokenocutt *alias* Sowamsett!" (Plym. Col. Laws, p. 23).

The Plymouth colony finding that men had a passion for seizing the entire earth passed an order requiring men to select two or three "small" quantities of land, and relinquish all claims to other land. This was in 1638. On the 3rd March, 1639, this order was repeated in these words, "Ordered, that the purchasers, or old comers shall make choyce of two or three plantations for themselves and their heirs by this December Court. William Bradford and

his associates made choyce of three plantations, the 3rd was from Sowamsett River to Pawtuckquitt River with Consumpit Neck" (Plym. Col. Rec. V. 2, p. 5)

Mr. Bicknell gives (page 59) the date of the "first original agreement; concerning each ones part in the land at Sowams" as "ye 7th month 1652. But on page 61 he states that in 1653 we find *they purchased* Sowams of Massasoit, and he says" Sowams or Barrington, had been known to the settlers since 1620. Certainly Barrington was never known until the incorporation of the town in 1717, it could never have been synonymous with the name Sowams. The Indian Deed from Massasoit is given by Mr. Bicknell (page 62); it bears date 20 March 1653, but no such place or locality as Sowams is mentioned in the Deed, nor is Barrington mentioned. The Deed was signed by Osamequin and Wamsetto. The singular thing here is that Wamsetto who was the eldest son of Massasoit was asked to sign, while Philip the second son was not asked to sign. At page 105 Mr. Bicknell again speaks of this Deed as a joint Deed of Massasoit and *Philip*, in 1653 of "Sowams and Parts Adjacent." No such phrase appears in the Deed; which Deed was not signed by Philip. These things are repeated again, and again until they become confusing. At page 43 "Sowams and Parts adjacent were sold." At page 62 it is the Deed of Osamequin and Wamsetto. At page 95, it is the Deed of Massasoit and Philip. At page 165 the transfer of Sowams and Parts adjacent is mentioned. At page 62 the Deed of Massasoit and Alexander is written, but at page 105 it is the joint Deed of Massasoit and Philip; at page 98 "after the purchase of Sowams," At page 60-61 the names are given of 79 proprietors who "in 1653 purchased Sowames. On page 43 only 5 are named;

on page 63, there are the names of 11; on page 67 there are 15 names. At page 97 Mr. Bicknell undertakes to make Roger Williams an authority for Sowames being Barrington; John Clark and his friends being banished sought the advice of Williams. He suggested two places so Mr. Bicknell states, "in the Narragansett Bay the one on the main land called Sowames (the Neck since called Phebes Neck in Barrington) and Aquidneck." The quotation marks indicate an extract from Clark, and with the exception of the phrase in brackets it is an extract from Clark (Clark's Narrative, Mass. Hist. coll 4, ser. V. 2, p. 24). The words, "the neck, since called Phebe's (Peebe's) in Barrington" are not Clark's nor Bicknell's, they are Callender's, and upon them Mr. Bicknell lays much stress—But he has used them most unfairly; he has suppressed a foot note written by Callender which overthrows his entire structure. These are the words, "Perhaps Sowames is properly the name of the river where the two Swanzy rivers meet and run together for nearly a mile when they empty themselves in the Narragansett Bay, or of a small island where these two first rivers meet at the bottom of New Meadow Neck, so-called (Callender's Hist. Disc. original ed. 1739, p. 30). But Mr. Bicknell is guilty of another more flagrant misquotation Mr. Callender wrote the clause in brackets thus, (*the southeasterly part of the neck since called Phebe's neck in Barrington*), the words in italic Mr. Bicknell has omitted. They destroy the entire structure of his arguments. This is a good illustration of Mr. Bicknell's very unfair use of quotations and it practically destroys his case. In 1765 Stephen Hopkins mentioned this fact in these words. "Mr. Williams recommended two places, one by the Indians named Sowams being the lands in and

about Warren" (Prov. Gazette Feb. 2, 1765.

In the light of these corruptions of Callender's and Clarks writings, Mr. Bicknell's pages 97, 98 and 99 become the veriest travesties of history.

At page 98 we read "next to the title deed from the Indians *establishing* Barrington, as the Sowams of Massasoit, the most important testimony is that of Roger Williams." This is downright absurdity—the Deed does not mention Sowams; and as for Williams he could never have found a place along the shores of the Bay between where the present town of Warren stands, and the city of Providence for a plantation, nor have men even to this day. Upon this evidence, Warren stands where Williams pointed, at Sowams.

At page 104, much stress is laid upon the use in the Deed of the Shawomet lands to Gorton, of the words "Sowhomies Bay." Mr. Bicknell says, "Miantonomi used the words in his deed, 'since the Barrington territory opposite was known to his tribe as Sowams.'" Miantonomi never wrote the Deed, nor could he read it—it is pure assumption to say that his tribe so knew these lands.

Again, on page 105, much stress is laid upon the statement written by Morton in 1669, that "Sowams was *about* forty miles from Plymouth," and hence it must be Barrington and New Meadow Neck. Is not Warren *about* forty miles from Plymouth?

At page 35, Mr. Bicknell writes "Sowams was the territory of Barrington with parts of each Providence, Seekonk and Swansea," but no part of Warren is mentioned, nor of Pokanoket—At page 104 is written "my reasons for the position that Barrington is, as a whole, or in part ancient Sowams, are these:" then follows 14 reasons; but

Mr. Fessenden gave in 1845, 17 reasons which were quite as cogent against his theory.

Mr. Bicknell lays much stress upon the "Manuscript Records of the Proprietors of Sowams, and Parts Adjacent," which he states is in the Town Clerk's office at Barrington (page 77). The fact that these Records were first, and always, until quite recently in the Town Clerk's office at Warren is proof that Warren and Sowams, were the same place. They were taken away without the permission of the Town.

The question of taxation by Plymouth points in the same direction. In 1660 Capt. Willett was sent in October, 1660, to find some way for the levying and paying of these rates; in 1663 it was ordered that "those sett down att Sowamsett be accounted to belong to the town of Rehoboth; and so likewise in 1664, and again in 1665. In 1647 the "lands at new New Meadow Neck were granted to the inhabitants of Rehoboth until there should be a plantation at Sowames."

In all the earlier records it will be observed that Sowams, Kickamuet and Pokanoket were always used in connection; and the fact of contiguity, and all lying easterly of the Warren, or as it was first known, the Sowams River, points clearly to Warren as Sowams.

Concerning the meaning of the word Sowams, Mr. Bicknell cites Mr. Tooker, thus, it means "South Country or Southward—" Mr. Tooker doubtless derives his idea from William's Indian word, *Sowwaniu*, which means southwest—But Mr. Trumbull defines it to mean "a place of Beach trees"—and Mr. Trumbull is among the highest authorities.

At page 65 the reader is left to infer that lands were devoted to school and church uses in 1653, but he nowhere gives any actual time whence such lands

were set apart. No clergyman was there until 1663 (see page 122).

There is throughout the whole book a good deal of repetition; thus at page 66, "None of us shall at any time let, or sell any of said lands to any strangers." At page 84 this paragraph is reproduced.

So again at page 65 "the Pastor's and Teacher's lots income to aid in support of Ministers and Teachers" at page 76 it is reproduced.

At page 67 Mr. Bicknell says "the real founders of our section were the very people who landed on Plymouth rock." And again "Plymouth was the first free, democratic government of the world." To neither of those propositions can we agree. The real founders of a state, or a city, are not the land speculators who bought, but those who actually planted. The governments of both the Massachusetts Colonies were anything but democratic they were religious oligarchies.

At page 67 Mr. Bicknell says "Plymouth was the first free democratic government in the world." At page 137 he says "The town meeting at Barrington can be governed by no freer spirit than that at Plymouth." Then at page 138 comes this extraordinary admission: "The qualifications of a freeman in the towns were: twenty-one years of age, sober and peaceable conversation, *orthodox in the fundamentals of religion*, and a ratable (taxable) estate of 20 pounds." If that was a pure democracy then what is religious oligarchy?

In further illustration of Mr. Bicknell's "pure Democratic government," or the "first in the world," let me call attention to his chapter XII, in which he gives an account of "Land Ranks,"

established by these Plymouth speculators in Sowamsett land. There were three ranks the first or highest outranking the others, made in 1670; after eleven years, in 1681, Mr. Bicknell says (page 161), "the ranking system created a landed aristocracy (of course, in his pure democracy), when the act of a committee went a step further and made the highest rank hereditary,"

On page 69 there is a very singular error, it reads first, concerning Mr. Willett, "in Winthrops Journal, V. 1. p. 322, he is mentioned at Kennebec in 1623, and hence could not have come in the Ship Lion in 1635. At the bottom of the same page, is Winthrop's anecdote, which comes from the page 322, cited, which does not place Willett at Kennebec but at Plymouth, Mr. Bicknell took his statement from Mr. Bliss' Hist. Rehoboth page 269, but he wholly misunderstood the statements.

Concerning the question of taxation by Plymouth Mr. Bicknell shows (page 100) the levying of a tax upon the Sowams settlers in 1652, and again in 1660 in the very next paragraph Capt. Willett is sent to have rates levied upon those having land at Sowamsett. Mr. Bicknell's whole contention is that Barrington and Sowams are the same, and that Peebes Neck where Willett lived, and died, was and is in Barrington. "Within the town of Barrington as originally laid out" page 71. These facts destroy the theory that Sowams and Barrington were the same, and justifies the statement made by Mr. Bicknell in his former History of Barrington, page 41, concerning the vagueness of the original bounds of large tracts of lands as described in the first transfers from the Indians."

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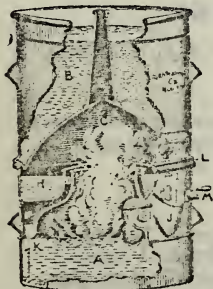
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In a recent note upon the destruction of the beautiful American elms, grown for fifty years around the Public Library new building, the writer used this expression: "Then to think that L. W. Russell advocated the act." It was incomprehensible to the writer how this gentleman could have done such a thing; now he comes and avers that he did not advocate it, and desires the writer to set him "right" before my readers. I will try—My authority was of course the letter of Mr. W. E. Foster published in the *Sunday Journal*, May 7. This is what Mr. Foster said: "After consultation with Mr. L. W. Russell, a former president of the Rhode Island Horticultural Society, and other experts it 'has' been decided to remove these ill-assorted trees"—Beautiful American Elms of fifty years growth. The use of the word "has" in a letter of May 7, when, according to the letter from Mr. Stone, the trees had all been removed before April 5th, seems not just correct. The evident purpose of Mr. Foster was to make people believe that Mr. Russell advocated the vandalism which had been done, and to that extent shield those who did it from criticism. Then comes Mr. Russell with this note, written simultaneously with the publication of the letter in the *Journal*, Sunday, 7th of May:

My Dear Mr. Russell—

If I understand Mr. Stone correctly, this final suggestion did not come from you, but none the less, I am glad to acknowledge the valuable council which we have had from you in this matter.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

Then comes Mr. Russell with this note, dated April 5th, more than a month before Mr. Foster's note:

Mr. L. W. (*sic*) Russell,

Dear Sir—

We have cut down the trees around the Public Library (not because they were "ill assorted" as Mr. Foster says, but) which had been very much mutilated by horses and teams * * will you kindly give me your opinion * * this request is made not only on my own behalf, but also at the request of the building committee, who value, not only your opinion but advice, &c.,

ALFRED STONE.

The case is clear—the Elms were destroyed before the "opinion" or "advice" of Mr. Russell was sought, and hence Mr. Foster's letter in the *Journal* puts Mr. Russell in an utterly false position. There is another misleading thing in Mr. Foster's note; it is concerning Dr. O. W. Holmes. Mr. Foster uses these words: "yet this fortunate tree

(the ginko on Boston Common) may almost be said to have become classic through the often quoted reference to it in the *Autocrat of the Breakfast Table*." This puts Dr. Holmes in as false and misleading position as the reference to Mr. Russell did that gentleman. An examination of the *Autocrat* will disclose ten pages in glorification of the New England Elm, while but a single reference will be found to this ginko, and this reference is not of the slightest consequence. Here it is: "One of the long granite blocks used for seats was hard by, the one you may still see by the Gingko-tree; pray sit down, I said." That is every word that Dr. Holmes said in "glorification" of the ginko (*Autocrat* 1st ed. p. 324—last ed. p. 277.) Now let me show you what Holmes said concerning our beautiful Elms. The following page references all refer to the "First" edition of the *Autocrat*—(p. 275) "The queen of them all is that glorious tree near one of the churches in Springfield; beautiful and stately she is beyond all praise." . . . "The Sheffield Elm is remarkable for size and perfection of form" (p. 274). "The American Elm is tall, graceful, slender-sprayed, and drooping as if from languor." (p. 277.) "Will you walk out and look at those Elms with me after breakfast?—I said to the school mistress." (p. 278). Curiously enough Mr. Foster's reference to Holmes and the ginko comes from Section XI, this very walk with the school mistress to look, not at a ginko, but "at those Elms." (p. 324). I have something more to say about "Elms" (p. 332). "Two noble Elms are to be seen in that town (Norwich) (p. 333): "The Deerfield Elm, one of the finest trees in symmetry and beauty I had ever seen" (p. 334). In the face of such an array, how can Mr. Foster fall back upon Dr. Holmes for support for his ginko. But there is more of it. Holmes commends

Emerson's *Trees and Shrubs of Massachusetts* (page 273). Now read what Emerson says (p. 321), concerning our American Elms: "They have a great variety of beauty"—"no trees are greater favorites or deservedly so"—"The American Elm is the most magnificent tree to be seen" (p. 322). "Graceful curvature and absence of all abruptness" . . . "the American Elm affects many different shapes, all of them beautiful" (p. 322). . . . "such is the fine old tree, still in perfect vigor, which stands by the painted gate of the botanic garden in Cambridge, and such are many of the noble trees in Northampton, Springfield, and along the valley of the Connecticut," but thanks to the building committee of the Public Library, such timber is removed from Rhode Island. It is no wonder that Mr. Russell desires to be set right in the public mind. Nor was it possible to more terribly misrepresent Dr. Holmes than Mr. Foster has done.

The *Journal* of June 2d has a report of the 88th annual meeting, of the Rhode Island Medical Society, which in case the writer is correctly informed is the veriest sham in two vital particulars. In serious earnestness a physician advocated the enactment of a statute authorizing and directing castration to be performed upon certain children; and second, castration of criminals; and the *Journal* says that Dr. Palmer actually supported the monstrous proposition. It reads like the "medical" reasonings of the middle of the 18th century. But Dr. Palmer absolutely denies the *Journal's* statement, so far as he is concerned. Such a discussion is a positive disgrace to men assuming to be educated. Can the General Assembly of Rhode Island make a statute in violation of a law of nature. Let Blackstone answer: "This law of nature being co-eval with mankind and dic-

tated by God himself, is, of course, superior in obligation to any other; it is binding over all the globe, in all countries, and at all times; no human laws are of any validity if contrary to this; and such of them as are valid derive all their force, and all their authority, mediately or immediately from the original." Let those doctors read Black stone awhile, and then confine their legal efforts to vaccination for small pox, and the rooting out of the Christian Science principle. There was another thing said at this medical meeting which the *Journal* suppressed, but which I am informed *was said*, and which has some interest to some people. It was that Dr. Chapin had abandoned the practice of confining well people with the malignant sick, and calling such barbarity "quaranteneing" people. Dr. Swarts has personally admitted the same change in his practice as health officer to the writer within a month. Certainly we are progressing. Now stop placarding houses for sore throats, or for any other sickness. No law can give these men the right to brand my house as a pest house, because my child has the scarlet fever.

The value of newspapers as circulators of truthful statistics or of matters of fact, is clearly shown by these items. The *Pawtucket Gazette* has this on May 5: "The amount of money in circulation in the United States has more than doubled in the last twenty years, and is now per capita—\$25.45—more than at any time in our history," and on the same day the *Boston Herald* has this: "The money in the country, reckoned on a population of 75,875,000, figures out \$29.14 per capita, of which proportion \$16.23 is in domestic money and \$12.91 in gold. What is "domestic" money? The *Herald* says that the total money in the United

States, which includes copper, nickel, paper, silver and gold was, on the 5th of May, \$2,210,994,731. The capitalization of trusts, stated by the *New York Times*, has reached the sum of 5,000,000,000 of dollars—nearly two and a half times the sum total of money—and leaving aside all other real, or personal, property. The South Sea Bubble "was not in it."

The *New York Times* in speaking of the financial markets (May 18) said "Men of such calibre are not sentimental, they know what they are about." Just so, that is why they subscribed for five times the entire stock in Amalgamated Copper, which stock fell to 85 (par 100) within three weeks of this operation of superhuman wisdom.

In further evidence of the return of prosperity in business the *Boston Herald* of May 23 gives the record of mortgages on real estate in Boston for the preceding three weeks and then comparing the years 1897, 1898, 1899, the record is 193, 177, 211, which is an increase of 20 per cent. If that don't show prosperity, what does it show?

Boston Herald, 13th May, page 12: "Every fire insurance office in Boston is utilizing spare time and the depressed condition of business keeps the spare time in full supply," &c. Same paper (page 5) "Trade continues generally favorable—advanced quotations—increased activity—heavy sales—prices tending upward," "bank clearings surpassing all records."

The price per ton of coal to the consumer, in Boston was, on May 17th, lowered 50 cents and even \$1.00 per ton. The *Boston Herald*, 17th inst. (page 7), says this was because "business had been dull."

The New York *Times* of 31st May has a leading article with the heading, "Our Overwhelming Burdens," in which it throws, or tries to throw, ridicule at the idea conveyed in the heading, and it attempts to support its theory of present great success in business wholly by the reported bank clearings. These are its words: "It remains true that bank clearings are the most accurate measures we have from week to week of the condition of trade and business in the country; when clearings in the principal cities show a large increase over the corresponding week of the preceding year we '*know*' that business has improved; the country is now prospering." Now, let us look at such a statement. In stock speculations are not checks used?—and do these checks swell the clearings? The *Times* is itself the authority that these speculations in New York and in all the principal cities" have reached enormous proportions. But there is another crushing factor in this Bank Clearing nonsense. The *Times* gave, a few days since, a list of Trusts in this country, with a capital amounting to two and a half times the entire amount of gold, silver, paper, nickel and copper money in all the country. Hence in the financing of trusts, checks must be used. Now we see how it works. An Olneyville woolen mill, in the Woolen Trust, has to pay a debt of \$2500. The Trust keeps on deposit here a certain stipulated sum to the credit of the mill; a check pays the debt; the voucher is sent to the Trust head office, and another check makes good the amount; hence a payment of \$2500 shows in the bank clearings as \$5000. Now, how can the *Times* "*know*" from bank clearings that business has improved? It cannot—the bank clearings have been doubled simply by this device of Trusts.

There is in the June *Century* a paper on Gilbert Stuart's Financial Shifts, written by C. H. Hart, which, if true, throws a light upon the great Rhode Island Painter, which is quite obscured in the elaborate life of Stuart, by George C. Mason, late of Newport. If Mr. Hart's paper is true, Stuart lived while in England chiefly in the old Fleet prison, for unpaid debts. Sir T. Lawrence said that "Stuart's leaving England was because of his having become tired of some of our prisons;" he practically ran away, by the way of Dublin, leaving many portraits unfinished, but for which he had been paid in advance. It is a most discreditable story.

The *Journal* is yelling for a Police Commission, in the hands of those who run the State Government, to manage the Providence Police. In Boston, the *Herald* is punching the Police Commission because it does not stop robberies, murders, and spitting upon sidewalks, &c. If this can be done by the General Assembly that body can authorize Gov. Dyer to appoint supervisors of the Providence *Journal* Company and also controlling inspectors of the Brown & Sharpe Company. If one can be legally done, then all of them can.

The importance of instructing a child at the Cooking Schools that, in wringing the water out of a dish cloth both hands should *not be turned in the same direction*, but that one, and particularly the right (not the wrong) one, should be turned toward the body, while the one that is not turned towards the body should be *turned from* the body. The great importance, we say, of these things is apparent to anybody.

The *committal to memory* of cooking receipts is another "*excellent*" thing for young children; it takes time and time takes money, and so the school terms

are shortened, and the immense value of committing to memory cooking receipts is just so much curtailed—More fads, gentlemen—more fads is the crying need.

One of the very first receipts that my child brought home from the Cooking School was for the making of egg-nog, and the very latest was to put *three yeast cakes* into a mixing of bread, a single loaf, in order to "hustle" the rising. Now I do not wish to be taxed to teach such things to my children.

Concerning the Arrival in New England of Thomas Willett.

The following inquiry comes from a young student of Rhode Island history. It is clear that I failed in the last BOOK NORES in stating the case of Willett's coming in a way that it could not be misunderstood by my correspondent, who writes this note:

Dear Mr. Rider—

Kindly explain to me a little more fully than you did in your criticism of the History of Barrington about the date of Thomas Willett's arrival in America. John O. Austin says: "He arrived on the ship *Lion*, 1632." I see by the Plymouth Records that he was made a Freeman in 1633. Bradford first mentions his (Willett's) being at Kennebec under the date of 1635. I have not Winthrop to consult, and I wish to know what the note is that Mr. Bicknell quotes from Winthrop, which according to Mr. Bicknell, places Willett at Kennebec in 1629."

Winthrop's Hist. N. E. v. I, p. 322, has this paragraph: "At Kennebeck the Indians wanting food, and there being store in the Plymouth trading house, they conspired to kill the English there for their provisions; and some Indians coming into the house, Mr. Willett, the master of the house, being

reading his Bible," &c. This does not say that Willett was at Kennebec in 1629, as Mr. Bicknell said, and citing Winthrop for the statement; but that he was at Plymouth in 1629. You are incorrect in saying that Willett was made a freeman in 1633. His name is certainly upon the list which appears on v. I, page 1, of the Plymouth Records. This list was not of those men made freemen at that time, out of all so made down to that time. The list is headed: "The names of the freemen of the Incorporation of Plymouth in New England in 1633." There is no present means of determining at what time Willett came. Mr. Savage, in his Genealogical Dictionary, v. 4, p. 557, says: "Thomas Willett came over *as I judge* in the *Lion* in 1632," and he cites Mass. Hist. Col. Series 4, vol. 1, page 94, which is an article *by himself*, in which is a list of passengers in the ship *Lyon*, in 1633, but the name which he gives is not Thomas, but Tobie Willett. In this entry Savage uses the phrase "beyond doubt," in his other note he uses "as I judge." Had he remembered Winthrop, which he edited in 1825, he would not have made such a stupid blunder.

Mr. Austin, whom you cite, simply took his statement from Savage's Dictionary, as shown above.

Winthrop is not only the first, but also the best evidence, and there is positively nothing opposed to him.

All the others fall into error by misreading or misunderstanding Winthrop and quoting each other. Alden's Epitaphs, which Mr. Bicknell cites, he took from Bliss's History of Rehoboth. Mr. Bliss states that he once saw a copy of Alden's Epitaphs which contained a manuscript note by the "renowned antiquarian Samuel Davis," which stated that "Mr. Willet came to Plymouth about 1629." Then Bliss goes on to say "Certainly, we have clear evidence from Winthrop's Journal, v. I, p. 322." Had Mr. Bicknell understood Mr. Bliss's note, he could not have written his page 69, so far as it relates to Willett.

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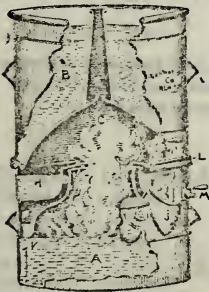
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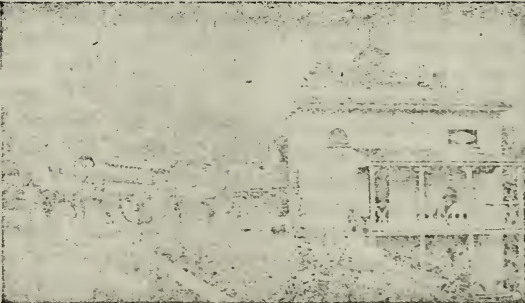
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SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1899.

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No. 13.

**Arbores magnae diu crescunt una
hora extirpantur.**

The article in a recent BOOK NOTES on the destruction of the Elms around the new Public Library Building, to make way for Gingko trees has brought this letter :

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 11, 1899.

MR. SIDNEY S. RIDER,

DEAR SIR:—I have just read your article in BOOK NOTES of the 10th inst., in regard to the trees around the Public Library Building and realize that I have been the unintentional cause of placing both Mr. Foster and Mr. Russell in a false position and wish you to correct the same in your next issue.

In some way Mr. Foster got the impression that Mr. Russell approved the changes in the trees from Lindens and Elms to Gingkos, or in his letter in regard to "Trees around the Library Building" stated that Mr. Russell had been consulted, not knowing that Mr. Russell had called upon me in reply to my letter but failed to find me in and therefore had not given any reply to my request for his advice.

Mr. Foster showed me the letter and after reading it we turned to the bound volumes of Garden & Forest to find allusions therein to the Gingko tree and I

inexcusably forgot to recur to his allusions to Mr. Russell and to explain to him that although I had consulted Mr. Russell I had not learned his views.

Events of a private nature the illness and death of my wife and the death four days before her death of her brother at Salem—drove all tho't of this matter from my mind or I would have made a sooner explanation.

No one can regret more than I do the false position which my careless but unintentional oversight has placed both Mr. Foster and Mr. Russell. Will you therefore see that all the blame is placed where it should be on me.

Yours truly,

ALFRED STONE.

BOOK NOTES would almost consent to the destruction of *one* Elm, were it certain that it would bring a letter so generous, as to be almost noble. But BOOK NOTES has not yet finished with this subject; there is in it a matter of public interest; it was an error in judgment which in three generations cannot be overcome; but in another respect it is quite as serious; it is an excellent illustration of the wicked warping of authorities in support of wrong actions. Mr. Foster sought shelter behind the advice of Mr. Russell, but Mr. Russell proves

the contrary to be the fact; then Mr. Foster "got in behind" Dr. O. W. Holmes, from a single irrelevant reference to the Gingko, making no mention of pages of glorification of the Elms. This irrelevant phrase was reproduced in the former issue of BOOK NOTES thus, "One of the long granite blocks used for seats was hard by, the one you still see by the Gingko-tree." That is all that Dr. Holmes said. But Mr. Foster thus uses it. "This fortunate tree (the Gingko) may almost be said to have become *classic* through the oft quoted reference to it in the *Autocrat*." It is absurd nonsense, there is nothing quotable in the paragraph. Then BOOK NOTES followed with page after page, not one of which Mr. Foster noted of Dr. Holmes's glorifications of the Elms, taken from the *Autocrat*. Now it comes with two others, taken from Holmes's *Elsie Venner*; "nobody knows New England who is not on terms of intimacy with one of its Elms; the Elm comes nearer to having a soul than an other vegetable creature among us; it loves man, as man loves it" (p. 56). "No natural gothic arch compares for a moment with that formed by two Elms where their lofty jets of foliage shoot across each other's ascending curves to intermingle their showery flakes of green" (p. 55.) In the light of these expressions by Dr. Holmes, Mr. Foster went entirely outside of fact when he cited him. The reference by Mr. Foster to the *Garden and Forest* is even more unfair. In his letter above, Mr. Stone says, "we (Mr. Foster and himself) turned to the bound volumes of *Garden and Forest* to find allusions therein to the Gingko tree." He gave no references, but Mr. Foster gives a quotation, and this he describes as reference "to the testimony of various writers;" in "*Garden and Forest*;" this is his quotation. "It has as yet been

attacked by no insect, or fungus disease." This paragraph is all the "testimony of various writers" given by Mr. Foster. Now let me give you a few of these specimens taken from *Garden and Forest*; in each case the volume, and page is given, so that verification is easy.

"In the old Japanese temple gardens the Gingko is frequently 120 feet high, with a tall massive trunk, six or seven feet in diameter" (v. 10 p. 390). "It must not be forgotten that it has taken from 500 to 1000 years to "build" up the great Gingkos in the Chinese temple gardens" (v. 10 p. 391). "So little picturesque is the Gingko in early life, and so badly does it blend with American surroundings that a great landscape gardener declared that it could have no place in our landscape planting (v. 10 p. 391). "There are not yet any very large, or fine specimens in this country, but the tree planted nearly a century ago on the Hudson river has "begun" to assume mature habit (v. 10 p. 391) "The Gingko is fairly hardy when grown in sheltered situations, and although very slow of growth, it is well worth planting where a tree of peculiar habit is desired" (v. 10 p. 23, 1897) "The wood is bright yellow, with a close compact grain, and is capable of receiving a beautiful polish "(v. 10 p. 391)." The wood is soft, easily broken, and not particularly valuable" (v. 10 p. 391). "The Gingko does not assume its real character until it is more than a century old" (v. 10 p. 391). There are few trees where youth gives so little indication of future splendor" (vol 10 p. 391). Stiff, almost grotesque in its early years, with slender, remote wide spreading branches" (v. 10 p. 391). "It is very valuable as a street tree; besides this, the tree grows rapidly" (v. 8 p. 456). Some specimens after planting stand still, and absolutely refuse to

grow" (v. 8. p. 515) "Some of them (on Pennsylvania avenue, Dept of Agric) are little more than straight sticks, although it is fifteen years since they were set out" (v. 8 p. 516). "The Gingko is to be commended for its many good qualities, among them must be mentioned the uniform clear *light lemon yellow color* of its leaves in autumn" (v. 9 p. 459). "The Gingko is here a thrifty tree, but we do not yet know how it will bear old age in this country (v. 5 p. 603). Mr. Jack (of the Arnold Arboretum).

It would not be possible to conceive of a more contradictory collection of opinions, all from the *Garden and Forest*, than those above given; nor of one more singularly absurd in the face of them, than that which Mr. Foster gave. They are not only contradictory, but they are silly; and show dense ignorance; but they are a splendid illustration of the unfairness of quotations, cited to sustain wrong actions—in the light of them who would think of destroying the Elms.

There is yet a word to be said upon another side of the subject. There is a disposition to attribute some spirit of veneration for the Gingko, among Eastern nations because it is not to be found wild, but only in the grounds of the sacred Temples; nothing could be further from the truth. The Gingko was exterminated by the people, just as in our day the Sequoia has been destroyed; mere wanton waste. It remains around the Temples because people could not there cut, and burn them. Mr. Rein in his most recent and most valuable work on Japan writes to this effect: I strike from the list of conifers in Japan, *Salisburia adiantifolia*; we find it only cultivated in temple grounds; proof that generations which knew trees in ancient times could, with torch, and saw, bring about their des-

truction" (Rein's Japan pp. 161.2). The botanical name of the tree is *Salisburia adiantifolia*. The Chinese write it, Tin-hing; the Japanese write, ginko; others write ginkgo, gingko, gingo etc., etc. The New England Elm is beautiful from the day of its birth to the day of its death; while this gingko takes a hundred years to become even tolerable, and even then, taking the *Garden and Forest* as authority it may not become so.

Believing a lie will never save you from eternal damnation; then how will you be harmed by doubting, or testing, the soundness of your beliefs, and discarding those which reason, and common sense, and historical research, show to be without foundation. There has just been published in a neat monograph, *Canon of the Bible* by Samuel Davidson, DD. It is published, price 50 cents, by Peter Eckler, New York City. Dr. Davidson has been long well known by Biblical Scholars by his Introductions to the Old and New Testaments. The present Essay treats of the formation, history and fluctuations of the Canon. In its ecclesiastical sense the word Canon means "the straight rule" and its application is to those writings used by the church, as the rule of action in the lives of men. The Canon has been construed by certain scholars, especially the Greeks as a *list*; and it thus became a "catalogue of writings forming a rule of truth sacred, divine, revealed by God for the instruction of men." Hence Dr. Davidson's Essay considers the relations in which the present books of the English Bible stand, to these rules when tested under the light of modern research; thus this Essay becomes of the greatest interest to all thoughtful men. It was written for the latest edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*; but it was so much

abridged and even mutilated by the editors of that work, that Dr. Davidson published it entire as a separate work. It has now passed three editions in England, the present reprint being from the third edition. It is the best fruit of the ripest scholarship.

In an elaborate leader on *Our securities abroad*, and why they don't stay there, the very learned, and very honest, Editor of the *Journal* says this. "It is recognized abroad as it must be recognized by the more thoughtful of our own people that there cannot be any distinct and substantial improvement in our industrial conditions until the currency has been placed upon a satisfaction basis" that is, a basis satisfactory to the very learned and very honest Editor aforesaid. But just think how that gives the lie to all the booms in business which the *Journal* has for months been blowing, as shown in bank exchanges. But the language of the newspapers on financial matters has become, like the language of the "ring," the vilest slang with not an element of truth remaining in it; their sole purpose is to assist in catching "gudgeons."

The Ralston water still is a positive blessing to almost any city family, it will supply absolutely pure water in adequate amount. I do not claim as the circular says that it will "make home happy" for our home was happy before the "still" came and is "still" happy, but it gave comfort to the better part of us, and the water is excellent, we neither drink, nor use any other in cooking.

The writer caused the arrest of an apparently old Italian woman as a persistent beggar on the street; she was taken to the central station, thereupon the writer requested Capt. Mathews to

remove the woman; for if really poor, and deserving, have her wants supplied; if a fraud then stop her. She had not been long in custody when her husband as he proved to be, was brought in, he also was a street beggar. The two had \$35.00. They were "professionals" from New York City and they took the Saturday night train for the metropolis.

On the 14th June inst., the Michigan House of Representatives failed by a single vote only, in enacting a Single Tax law; the Senate had already enacted the statute; the bill provided for the submission of the question, to assess taxes upon land values to the voters of any city, upon the request of one fifth of the tax payers; the bill came *within one vote of success*, for Gov. Pingree would have signed it.

The trial of Palmer (Amos) for the murder of his wife came to the usual ending in such cases; but there was one thing lacking, an apology from Attorney Gen. Tanner for having put Palmer, not to the expense, but to the annoyance of a trial.

The Palmer case; the McWilliams case, and the case of Dr. Hale are all typical and all very recent here.

The proposed Constitution for Rhode Island has again been rejected. The General Assembly listened to the political wisdom of those who write, at the dictation of those who own, the *Journal*, that the November vote came so near adopting the Document that another trial would succeed. It was tried, but it was again rejected. The statements of the *Journal* were absolutely false on both occasions; in the former trial the *Journal* said the adoption failed by 1133 votes; and now the *Journal* says, "it failed by the decided majority of 7109

ballots." The real condition was this, it failed in the former trial by 2907 votes; it failed now by 5996 votes, the latest figures are 4114 *approve*, against 12735 *reject*; the fate of this abominable scheme is at last decided, and justly decided; better never a change, than a change in this manner. Another illustration of newspaper inaccuracy occurs here; the Boston *Herald* on the morning after the voting gave the result; but it gave this paragraph "Last fall they came within 500 votes of the required three fifths." They did not come within 2906 votes last fall of the necessary three fifths. My friend Lincoln should be more careful.

The sale of a very desirable dwelling house lot on Bowdway a few days since, for 62 cents per foot, where \$2.00 had long been the asking price, has opened the eyes of a lot of thoughtless men. It

was the direct result of the throwing overboard of silver, as money in 1873. The restoration of silver to be money, will restore the price of this land.

Unsolicited there came to Book Notes a yearly advertisement of a young and vigorous Trust Company—*The Union*—with a deposit line of \$2,095,589.52. When this advertisement runs out its time, the deposit line will be \$4,191,179.04.

It is a fine commentary on the business prosperity in Providence that there are at this moment 100 business shops to rent on Westminster street and the streets connecting, while acres of space in the second floors of buildings are unoccupied. I don't know how many thousand dwellings are empty, but in New Haven there are 3500 such, empty, but bank clearing actually demonstrates prosperity in business.

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the marriage records of the following clergymen: Rev. Gardiner Thurston, Elder John Gorton, Elder Samuel Littlefield, Rev. James Wilson, Rev. Stephen Gano, Rev. N. B. Crecker, Rev. Thomas Shepard, the United Brethren of Newport, R. I., Elder James Wilson, and the Sabbatarian Church at Newport. The period covered is about 1670-1850; pp. 634. Cloth; price \$7.50.

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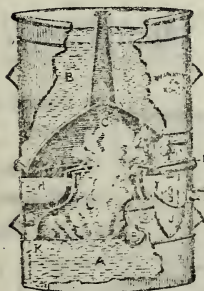
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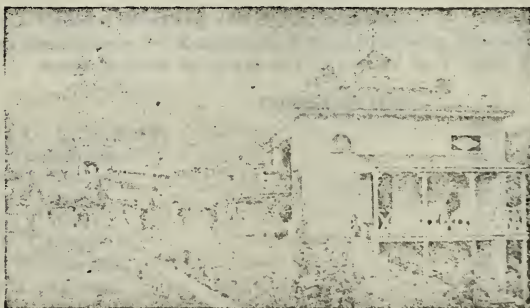
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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1899.

VOL. 16.
No. 14.

Concerning the Sauerbeck Prices for Commodities and Their Relations to Money.

An occasional reference to the Sauerbeck Index Numbers as illustrative of the course of prices for commodities appears in certain newspapers; but without a knowledge of Sauerbeck's method it is not possible to understand these Index Numbers; this method no newspaper, so far as my observation goes, has ever attempted to explain. BOOK NOTES will attempt an explanation. Sauerbeck selected forty-five (45) commodities. They are the basic commodities of human life, produced in various parts of the globe, and sold in England, where these prices were made. These commodities represent sixty-nine (69) per cent. of the external trade of England, while twenty (20) per cent. of those remaining were more or less affected by those included in the sixty-nine (69) per cent. An average annual price for each commodity was then found from twelve monthly or fifty-two weekly quotations, with the exception of potatoes, for which there were eight monthly quotations. It was found that calculated from these annual prices the average price for all commodities, for the years 1853-1877

was exactly equivalent to the average price for the period 1867-1877, the last six years of bimetalism and the first five years of monometalism. This period, 1867-77, of eleven years was selected as the standard period with the Index Number, which was 100, taken as the average point with which all other Index numbers were to be compared; as Sauerbeck says "The Index Numbers represent simply percentages of the average point." The process is simple, let me illustrate, taking wheat in England:

Average 1853-77—54s. 6d., = 100; the average point.

Average 1855—74s. 8d., = 137, or 37 per cent. above average point.

Average 1898—34s. = 62, or 38 per cent. below the average point.

The forty-five (45) commodities selected are comprised in the list following:

Wheat—English Gazette.....	1
Wheat—American.....	2
Flour.....	3
Barley.....	4
Oats.....	5
Maize.....	6
Potatoes.....	7
Rice.....	8
Beef—Prime.....	9
Beef—Middling.....	10

THE PROVIDENCE BANKING CO. ISSUES LETTERS OF CREDIT.

Mutton—Prime	11	Hemp—Manila A.....	30
Mutton—Middling	12	Hemp—St. Petersburg B.....	30
Pork.....	13	Jute.....	31
Bacon.....	14	Wool—Merino, port A.....	32
Butter.....	15	Wool—Adelaide B.....	32
Sugar—Best West Indian A.....	16	Wool—English Lincoln.....	33
Sugar—German Beet B.....	16	Silk.....	34
Sugar—Java.....	17	Hides—River Plate, dry A.....	35
Coffee—Ceylon A.....	18	Hides—River Plate, salted B.....	35
Coffee—Rio B.....	18	Leather.....	36
Coffee—(Mean of A and B).....	18	Tallow—St. Petersburg A.....	37
Tea—Congou A.....	19	Tallow—Town B.....	37
Tea—Average Import B.....	19	Oil—Palm.....	38
Tea—Mean of A and B.....	19	Oil—Olive.....	39
Iron—Scotch Pig.....	20	Oil—Linseed.....	40
Iron—Common Bar.....	21	Seeds—Linseed B.....	40
Copper—Chili Bar.....	22	Petroleum.....	41
Copper—English Tough Cake.....	22	Soda.....	42
Tin.....	23	Nitrate of soda.....	43
Lead.....	24	Indigo.....	44
Coals—Wallsend London.....	25	Timber—Hewn.....	45
Coals—Average export price.....	26	Timber—Sawn.....	45
Cotton—American middling.....	27	The learned statistician then compiled many tables, from which these following, are taken, showing the course of prices of these staples from all over the globe for twenty years, 1879-1898, inclusive.	
Cotton—Fair.....	28		
Flax—St. Petersburg A.....	29		
Flax—Russian average Import B.....	29		

YEAR.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1879.....	87	94	87	90	73	74	85	78	83	84.2
1880.....	89	101	88	94	79	81	89	84	88	85.9
1881.....	84	101	84	91	77	77	86	80	85	85.0
1882.....	84	104	76	89	79	73	85	80	84	84.9
1883.....	82	103	77	89	76	70	84	77	82	83.1
1884.....	71	97	63	79	68	68	81	73	76	83.3
1885.....	68	88	63	74	66	65	76	70	72	79.9
1886.....	65	87	60	72	67	63	69	67	69	74.6
1887.....	64	79	67	70	69	65	67	67	68	73.3
1888.....	67	82	65	72	78	64	67	69	70	70.4
1889.....	65	86	75	75	75	70	68	70	72	70.2
1890.....	65	82	70	73	80	66	69	71	72	78.4
1891.....	75	81	71	77	76	59	69	68	72	74.1
1892.....	65	84	69	73	71	57	67	65	68	65.4
1893.....	59	85	75	72	68	59	68	65	68	58.6
1894.....	55	80	65	66	64	53	64	60	63	47.6
1895.....	54	78	62	64	62	52	65	60	62	49.1
1896.....	53	73	59	62	63	54	63	60	61	50.5
1897.....	60	79	52	65	66	51	62	59	62	45.3
1898.....	67	77	51	68	70	51	63	61	64	44.3

A PARTICIPATION DEPOSIT IN THE UNION TRUST CO. HAS BRAINS
AND CAPITAL BEHIND IT.

Column No.	1	represents	Vegetable Foods, of the preceding list.	Nos. 1- 8.
" "	2	"	Animal Foods, meats, fish, &c.,	" 9-15.
" "	3	"	Sugar, coffee and tea,	" 16-19.
" "	4	"	Average point of Total Foods.	"
" "	5	"	Minerals,	" 20-26.
" "	6	"	Textiles,	" 27-34.
" "	7	"	Sundry materials, Hides, &c.,	" 35-45.
" "	8	"	Average point of Total Materials.	"
" "	9	"	Totals of Foods and Materials.	"
" "	10	"	Silver.	"

Average 1878-87..Foods, 84 Materials, 76 Grand total, 79. Silver, 82.1
 " 1888-97.. " 70 " 65 " 67. 61.0

Such was the result of throwing away silver as money by the U. S. Congress in 1873; the misery caused by this act to men all over the world has been simply appalling—and it all was done for the sole purpose of making rich men richer and poor men poorer. This misery might have been modified had debts been added to the shrinking list—but debts unlike commodities do not shrink.

Then Dr. Sauerbeck says: "The index number for all commodities was 64 for 1898, against 62 for 1897, or 36 per cent. below the standard period, 1867-'77, and 19 per cent below the ten years 1878-87. It is still three points, or 4 1-2 per cent. below the average of the ten years, 1888-97, but it must be welcomed as the best since the eventful year 1893, the time of the Australian and American crises, and the closing of the mints in British India; the rise is

equally shared by the two large classes, food and materials; but in the first case it is entirely due to corn (and wheat, &c., the Leiter speculation), and in the second to minerals. Animal food products were in the aggregate lower. Sugar was a little better, but Brazil coffee was considerably reduced. Textiles remained on the average on a par with the preceding year (1897), which was the lowest on record, and they would have been still lower but for the extraordinary rise in Manila hemp; the averages of cotton, flax and English wool have never been lower."

The following table shows the average index numbers of all the 45 commodities for ten years, that is for each period of ten years, from 1818 to 1898; it gives the best picture of the gradual movement of the *average* prices of *whole period*, as the ordinary fluctuations are still further obliterated.

1818-27....	111	1878-87....	79	1884-93....	71
1828-37....	93	1879-88....	78	1885-94....	69
1838-47....	93	1880-89....	76	1886-95....	68
1848-57....	89	1881-90....	75	1887-96....	68
1858-67....	99	1882-91....	74	1888-97....	67
1868-77....	100	1883-92....	72	1889-98....	66

A general average index number is drawn from all of the index numbers of the 45 articles enumerated in the list above; it is thus that the index number 64 for 1898 is found. All the foods and materials are placed in six groups, as follows:

1st group....Vegetable Foods; list, 1-8; total index Nos. 538; average, 67.
 2d "Animal Food.; " 9-15; " " " 542; " 77.
 3d "Sugar and Tea; " 16-19; " " " 205; " 51.

4th	"Minerals;	list, 20-26; total index Nos. 493; average, 70.
5th	"Textiles;	" 27-34; " " 405; " 51.
6th	"Hides, tallow, &c.	" 35-45; " " 698; " 63.

Groups 1-3, Foods, aggregate index number 1285, average 68.

" 4-6, Materials, " " 1596, " 61.

So by simple arithmetical calculations the general average index number, 64 for 1898 is found.

These tables are compiled, or wholly written, out of Sauerbeck's paper, which was printed in the March number of the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, London, England. The object being not only to bring them to the attention of men, but to simplify an understanding of them. The result is positively astounding in its exhibition of the result of the destruction of silver as money in 1873 by the United States, and the succeeding step by England of closing the mints of British India in 1893. The two greatest acts of Governmental robbery which history discloses. These tables prove that fact. This decline has now reached real estate; every owner of a house and the land on which it stands has become poorer; and in case he owes a mortgage upon it, is in danger of losing his property; for, strange to relate, while property shrinks in value, a paper evidence of debt remains intact. If there is not food for thought in these matters, then there is food for thought in nothing. President Lincoln said of slavery: "If that is not wrong, then nothing is wrong." So it is with this situation. As John Milton said of the works of Martin Bucer, "they are more large than to be read by over-busied men, and too high to be easily understood by inattentive men, or men of low capacity."—(Prose's Works, v. 1, p. 257.) So with these things.

It would have been impossible for me to prepare this paper but for the assistance in obtaining materials of Mr. W. E. Foster of the Public Library, who has labored, and is still laboring

for it; but his correspondence with leading librarians throughout the country concerning the question has disclosed an amount of ignorance on the part of these gentlemen which is appalling. This last opinion is not that held by Mr. Foster, but merely the writer's own.

Another Broadway sale of real estate has taken place; it was a foreclosure of a mortgage, for \$8000—the mortgagee bought and then *at once* sold the estate, for \$5000, (or less), the stamp being \$5.00. This mortgage was made in 1875; bought in 1885, by C. T. Keith, an assessor of taxes here for fifteen years. He was supposed to possess knowledge of real estate values, but look at the result and how it illustrates the Sauerbeck Index numbers above printed—this mortgage, like all commodities had shrunk; the commodities 36 per cent, this mortgage 37.5, and like the Sauerbeck prices it covered the period of silver destruction.

In the *July Century*, in an article entitled "The Making of 'Robinson Crusoe,'" J. Cuthbert Hadden tells the story of Alexander Selkirk—a story once very familiar, but of which all that we remember is that there was a castaway of that name on the island of Juan Fernandez, whose experience suggested De Foe's great story. He was a very real person, it seems, and intimate memorials of him are not lacking. In this connection BOOK NOTES suggests a reference to the voyages of Capt. Woodes Rogers.

THE INDUSTRIAL TRUST CO. ACTS AS EXECUTOR FOR ESTATES.

A few days since Prof. Kenneson, in addressing the graduating class at the N. Y. University Law School warned the class against the pecuniary and political influence (or words to that effect) now apparent in the courts of New York. The New York *Times* at once raised a howl of virtuous indignation, and other newspapers joined the chorus. Prof. Kenneson deserved castigation, or court martial, or something else at once. June 23d somebody (rascal of course) sent a letter to the *Times* from which BOOK NORES quotes: "I am tempted to call your and your readers' attention to the advertising columns of your issue of to-day. These columns furnish an object lesson for the determination of the justice of these charges, at least so far as Tammany's leader succeeds in securing the award to his own firm of these judicial

sales. Your issue of to-day contains fifteen advertisements of judicial sales. Of these four will be conducted by Peter F. Meyer, four by William M. Ryan, three by William Kennelly, and one each by James L. Wells, D. P. Ingraham, S. De Walltearss, and R. V. Harnett & Co."

It is a fine illustration of editorial newspaper howling, for the columns of the *Times* itself overthrow the editorial page. Professor Kenneson has long been a lawyer of the New York Bar; he probably knows as much about what he was talking about as the editorial writer of the *Times*, and these advertisements from the *Times* proves it. A judge, or a court that cannot bear investigation, or at least inquiry, on the part of men, had better give place to a system which can bear it.

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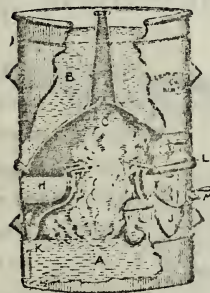
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SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1899.

VOL. 16.
No. 15.

The Trend of Opinion in England Concerning the Re-monetization of Silver.

The Manchester (England) *Guardian*, one of the most conservative and influential journals published in that country, published in March-June, 1899, four elaborate and carefully considered articles upon the question of British Indian currency. BOOK NOTES makes two or three quotations: "A former Governor General of India, Lord Northbrook, may be spoken of as a representative of the official class; he is avowedly an advocate of the gold standard only so long as an international remonetization of silver is impracticable." * * "The Manchester (England) Chamber of Commerce objected (by resolution) to the gold standard and advocated the reopening of the mints to silver." * * "Lord Northbrook himself leaves the door open for the free coinage of silver, if an arrangement can be made with France and the United States." * * "We should be disposed to agree with Sir Robert Giffin if he included in his unforeseen events the continued crusade against silver, as a discredited metal, and the continued legislation against it." * * "But if one of the two marked features of the evidence before the Indian Currency Commission

is the preference for Lord Northbrook's plan in the event of no international agreement being possible, the other marked feature is the admission that an international agreement for the re-establishment of the bi-metallic system on the basis of a ratio giving 15 1/2 as the gold value of the rupee, and 42 pence (the price of silver in 1888) as the gold value of silver bullion per ounce would be a more satisfactory solution; Lord Northbrook himself practically admits this, as also witnesses like Sir John Lubbock, Prof Alfred Marshall, Major Leonard Darwin, Lord Rothschild, Mr. Leonard Courtney and others. Indeed, some of the most important witnesses in favor of what may be considered Lord Northbrook's plan, definitely declared that the abrupt closing of the negotiations with the United States and France in 1897 was a blunder * * it is difficult to see how the committee can possibly avoid putting in the forefront of their recommendation the desirableness of steps being taken by the British Government for the reopening of negotiations with the United States * * if the committee are faithful to their trusts and render a true account of the results of their investigations they must make this recommendation." For Lord Rothschild's paper confirming the above statements of the *Guardian* see the latest Report of the

Director of the U. S. Mint, pages 382-386. This Parliamentary Commission having listened for months, have just issued their Final Report to Parliament, and the American Monometalist papers have noted the fact, which could not have passed unnoted; but not a word is said of the nature of the report, save to *suppress the fact* that the Commission recommend the fixing of the gold value of the rupee at 16 pence, just as the great financiers above mentioned urged, and the ratio at 22 to 1, which makes the price of silver 42 pence, in place of the present price 27 1-2 pence. Why do not the papers tell their readers these facts so that men may actually learn the trend of public opinion concerning the terrible situation.

Secretary of State John Hay wrote (1898) to Lord Aldenham: "My colleagues have not in the least changed or modified the views which they held last year (1897), in regard to the great desirability of an international agreement on the subject (of Bimetallism)" * * "The question of the ratio is one which this government is open to consider" * * "We have no cause to suppose that the French Government is not equally in a position to consider any reasonable suggestion respecting the parity between gold and silver."

Mr. Goschen, in the House of Commons, said: "I have contended and am prepared still to contend, that I should prefer the currency of the world to depend rather upon two metals than one."

In the face of such a showing the *Daily News* (London) has the mendacity to say that "the proposal to reopen negotiations with the United States is 'farcical' and made by two or three irresponsible persons. And Lon-

don is buying gold in New York to send to the Transvaal. London must be in fine form to undertake the placing of the Indian Empire upon a monometallic basis.

In the light of the opinions of these distinguished financial men, the greatest in modern England, all bi-metalists, all for the restoration of silver, how does the action of certain trustees of Brown University concerning ex-President Andrews stand. With President Andrews there stood Lord Rothschild, Lord Northbrook, Lord Aldenham, Lord Farren, Sir Robert Giffen, Prof. Alfred Marshall (Oxford University), the Rt. Hon. George Goschen, Sir John Lubbock, and the whole city of Manchester and of Glasgow.

A teacher in the schools asked the writer why Grace Church chimes were rung every year on the 10th of September. It is in honor of Perry's victory on Lake Erie. This chime was placed in the tower in 1861, and was rung for the first time on Easter morning, March 31st of that year. A few months previously the First Light Infantry had made an excursion to Lake Erie in celebration of that event, and Bishop Clark was a guest of the company. Then came a general subscription of money for the chime among the citizens of Providence, and the Infantry Company gave one bell, the condition being that the chime must be rung "on the 10th September in each succeeding year forever." This inquiry becoming confused, the writer was led to the making of an examination of the inscriptions; in company with Mr. George T. Hart. These inscriptions were printed in the *Year Book of Grace Church*, for 1899, but as there printed (pp. 104-107) they are filled with errors; there are also

some comical errors on the inscriptions upon the bells. BOOK NOTES will point out a few such errors. Bell A, was given by the Providence Marine Artillery. The *Year Book* says: "Chartered October 8, 1801." The General Assembly was not in session on the 8th of October, nor is the figure 8 on the bell; the *Year Book* has attached to that inscription the names of H. J. Smith and F. M. Smith. These names are not on the bell. The gentlemen were members of the firm A. D. & J. Y. Smith & Co., which firm gave bell C, and their names are cast upon that bell with the names of the other members of the firm. The *Year Book* says bell F was given by Walter S. Burgess; this name is cast upon the bell, Burgerss—the gentleman's name was Burges. The *Year Book* says, "Attorney General, Rhode Island, 1861," but the casting upon the bell reads "Attorney Gen. of R. I. 1860." Bell G was given by the Woonasquacket Print Works. This industry—calico printing—is now an extinct industry there. The *Year Book* gives the initials G. M. R., F R., W. R. as the donors of the bell, but on the bell these names are cast: George M. Richmond, Frank E. Richmond, Walter Richmond. The *Year Book* gives the inscription upon Bell F sharp, thus: "From the Personal Staff of Governor Sprague, William Sprague Governor of Rhode Island 1860." The casting upon the bell reads: "From the personal staff of William Sprague Governor (*sic*) of R. I. 1860." Then follows the names of the donors, gentlemen of the staff, thus: Col. L. B. Frieze, Col. A. Sprague, Col. A. S. Gallup, Col. R. W. Watson, Col. T. Harris, Col. C. Sherry, Jr., Col. J. A. Gardner. An erosion has nearly obliterated the names of Col. Gardner and Col. Watson, and also the words "Governor of." Bell F, sharp (there are two F sharps) when cast, and first hung, had upon it these words: "Wardens &

Vestry—W. T. Grinnell, G. W.; J. B. Anthony, J. W.; J. L. Pierce, Treas.; S. C. Kinsley, R. Manton, E. A. Green, W. H. Parkhurst, Sec. & Vestry clerk." These words are cast upon the bell. Upon the opposite side the following inscription is *cut into* the bell: "Brown University Bell. Presented by John Carter Brown upon condition that this chime of bells is to be rung on the Morning and Afternoon of every Commencement day, April, 1861." The word "From" did not precede the words "Wardens & Vestry" on this bell, nor has it ever been cut upon the bell. Such are some of the singular errors in the *Year Book*, and still more extraordinary, upon the bells themselves. Seldom, if ever, are the conditions of Mr. Brown's gift complied with, the chime is never rung upon Commencement days at Brown University, and the condition of the gifts by the Infantry company has not always been observed.

It may be noted that neither the American *Economist* nor the Providence *Journal* have printed Mr. Havemeyer's opinions of the operations of the 'Customs Tariff.' The fact of its existence may, however, be suspected by looking over the contents of the *Economist* for June 30. The entire space for reading matter, exclusive of advertisements, consists of 257 inches—206 of these inches is given to damning, or denouncing, or trying to do it, Mr. Havemeyer's paper on the *Tariff being the mother of all Trusts*.

The Bulletin of the Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., for July has a very interesting paper on the "Attitude of Women's Clubs and Associations toward Social Economics," written by Ellen M. Henrotin. This Bulletin gives all the recent laws affecting Labor, and all recent decisions by the highest courts all over the land of all Labor cases.

The *July* number of the *Review of Reviews* is a magnificent specimen of a periodical. The paper by John Barrett, on the Philippine question, is of the first importance and positively admirable. The paper upon Rosa Bonheur is artistically beautiful. The "Progress of the World" will teach "lots" to the man who thinks that he knows everything. The Dreyfus case, while inadequately handled, is still interesting; and the clippings from all *Reviews* really makes this the *Review of Reviews*. It is an admirable companion for bright men and bright women.

The *Saturday Evening Post* of July 15th has a paper written by Carter H. Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, on the "Misgovernment of the Modern City" which is positively excellent. BOOK NOTES would gladly reproduce it, and but for space it would. He says: "We cannot have pure municipal government until the voting majority of every community takes a personal interest in all legislation, attends the primary with the same fidelity as the polls, understands existing laws (and also those proposed) and displays deep concern in the acts of legislatures, common councils and public officials." * * "Unless the voter takes the same interest in his legislation (General Assembly acts) that he takes in his daily bread, I take it that it will be very difficult for him to secure his daily bread." That is just the lesson which BOOK NOTES has endeavored to teach, now for some years.

Those who delight in the finest Marseilles brands of salad oil—genuine olive—will do well to note the fact that the manufacturers of the "genuine," imported in 1895, of cotton seed oil, 579,643 barrels, one-half of which went from the United States.

American merchandise exported in 1898 reached the sum of \$1,233,564,828; the English exports were \$1,131,044,331. If that does not show that manufacturers here need protection against the pauper labor of Europe, what does it show.

The *Journal* is continuously screaming at Christian Science, and the victims by death, in the using of it. Does the *Journal* ever mention the victims by death of the regular practitioner—Never. What do these *Journal* writers actually know about the matter, positively nothing whatever. Let the question be settled by a post-mortem in every case, and we can then see how many men are positively killed by regular physicians. In spite of the writers of the *Journal* there is a principle of truth in the doctrines of Christian Science

Mr. Rider will furnish a buyer for a copy of Updike's History of the Narragansett Church.

Mr. Rider will furnish a buyer for a set of Charles Sumner's works.

Mr. Rider offers for sale a Set of the Official Gazette of the Patent Office—particulars on application.

The extremely wise Editor of the *Journal* says, July 10th, concerning Dreyfus: "He is still theoretically guilty and will be so until acquittal." The very reverse is true, the law presumption is that Dreyfus is innocent until he is convicted.

A few copies of Davidson's *Canon of the Bible* are for sale at 52 Snow street, BOOK NOTES office. Here men can learn who made the Bible a rule of faith for men; when it was done, and how

frequently other men have changed it. Remember this—only the true will endure—men cannot be saved by falsehoods nor by deceitful things. Price 50 cents.

The writer cannot resist placing in the columns of BOOK NOTES the following note, for here it will have preservation in all the great libraries of the country, as well also in hundreds of bound sets of this periodical; it will thus be rescued from the oblivion of the *Journal*, from the columns of which paper it is taken:

"A communication was received from Gov. Dyer relating to the taxation of corporations, the Board of Trade having written the Governor through its Secretary on the question. The following reply was received:

June 14, 1899.

George H. Webb, Esq., Secretary, Providence Board of Trade:

Dear Sir—I have received a communication from the Board of Trade under the date of June 6, 1899 requesting me to ask the opinion of Supreme Court as to the constitutionality of section 11, chapter 44, of General Laws of Rhode Island, and effecting corporated companies. Some have come to the conclusion that the constitutionality of the act passed by the General Assembly of the State is not one of those questions which, under my constitutional right, I ought to submit to the Judges of the Supreme Court for an opinion.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) ELISHA DYER, Governor."

The authority given the Governor to ask, and the duty of the Supreme Court to answer "any question of law" is laid down in the Constitution of Rhode Island thus: "The Judges of the Supreme Court shall give their written opinion upon any question of law whenever requested by the Governor." The question suggested is the constitution-

ality of the law under which town councils release rich corporations like the Banigan Rubber Works at Woonsocket; or such impecunious people as the Grosvenors at East Providence, from the payment of town taxes; placing what they would be required to pay upon the poorer, already overtaxed people of the towns. The nice delicacy of Gov. Dyer in declining to ask such a silly question, is a source of congratulation when considered in connection with the character of the questions submitted by former Governors to this Court, even as far back as 1857. The most serious question that can be considered is that of half-a-dozen men in council relieving men who may become their political friends from taxation—with such a law behind them.

Having the constitutional power, to ask an opinion of the Court "upon any question of law," BOOK NOTES regrets the action of the Governor in listening to "some (who) have come to the conclusion, &c., when a question of the constitutional power of a Town Council to exempt from taxation any corporation which contributes money to elect it to office, is suggested. Gov. Dyer makes a mistake in shrinking behind such a flimsy excuse.

The following very rare American magazines are for sale by Mr. Rider: *The Massachusetts Magazine*, Boston: April, 1789; January, July, August, 1790; December, April, 1791; February, July, August, September, 1792. Also *the Columbian Magazine*, Philadelphia, September, October, November, December, 1786; January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December, 1787. Also, Supplement to the *First volume* of the *Columbian Magazine* pp. 839-884, which matter has four (4) unnumbered pages preceding it; information concerning the condition of these numbers, with prices, will be gladly given.

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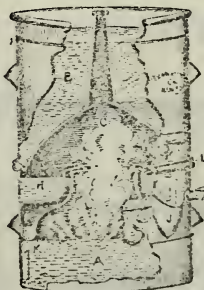
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SATURDAY, AUG. 5, 1899.

VOL. 1.
No. 16.

The editor of BOOK NOTES rises to a personal question; he has had the honor of being called into the street and there given a personal verbal castigation by the President of the *Journal* Company, who is also President of the Brown & Sharpe Company, and whose chief occupation has been the manufacture of the Willcox & Gibbs sewing machine. This gentleman twitted the writer with boasting the escaping payment of a debt owed by the writer to the gentleman in 1873 in taking advantage if the Bankrupt Law. It was the gentleman himself alone who petitioned the writer into bankruptcy. *Second*, as President of the *Journal* Company, the gentleman denounced the writer for his gentle criticisms of that paper. For instance, the exposure of the fabrication of the despatch announcing the "Fern" explosion in Havana harbor; and we suppose such a "forgery" upon Gov. Dyer's letter, as this BOOK NOTES presents. Of such things I am guilty, but the gentleman, himself is another, look at this.

The *Journal* of May 2 has a letter from the Brown & Sharpe Company addressed to the editor, which reads. "In your columns this morning you speak of us, etc., etc." "This statement is an untruth totally unwarranted by the facts and inspired we believe by parties aiming to fool the minds of the public."

Third, the gentleman, as a manufacturer of sewing Machines, denounced the writer, for an occasional mention of the fact that American sewing machines were sold in England, at one half the price, exacted here in the United States from American sewing woman.

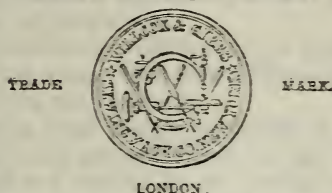
Always within the lines of legal, and moral right, the writer will write whatever he pleases, and print whenever he likes, so long as he can; he would not wilfully wrong any man, nor injure the feelings of any man; but he will stand for his rights, so long as he has rights, and for yours also; and he trusts, that he will never be so weak, as to be controlled by intimidation.

Let us come to this question of selling sewing machines all over England for one half the price exacted from the American people for the same. Is it right; *never*. But it is an undeniable fact, in spite of the denial of the gentleman, President of the *Journal* Company, that he does it; somebody does it, for here BOOK NOTES presents fac-similes of the London circulars, which some years ago the writer obtained from the London office.

It is evidence of the most positive character; no verbal denial is adequate; at the time these circulars were issued and the printed prices prevailed, this machine was sold here in Providence for from \$60 to \$80, while all over

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necessary to add the Hand Appliance.

England the price, reduced to U. S. money, was \$28.87. These figures are sufficiently accurate for a correct judgment. If they are so far correct, is it right; *never*; on the contrary it was an abominable legal outrage, defensible on no ground whatever. It is astounding that the American people have for so many years, submitted to such an outrageous wrong.

Perhaps it was thirty years, or more, ago, that there was litigation in New York City between this Willcox & Gibbs sewing machine company, and another American Company; the evidence was printed, and therein it appeared provided the writers memory does not go astray, that the cost of manufacture of this Providence machine, was about \$7.50 exclusive of the table, and running gear. If my memory yet serves me, American sewing women, were at that time forced to pay about \$75 for the

machine. If these figures are any approximation to the truth, they show how this machine could be sold in England for 4 (four) guineas, or about \$22.00. The tariff on sewing machines is 45 per cent. just to protect the owner of the patents from being brought to the point of starvation by the pauper labor of England. Think of such legalized robbery. Congress has given the President of the Journal Company a law which acts like a wrench upon every woman's pocket book in this country; of course he becomes rich, and powerful; *qui bono*. Is the sewing woman protected, or, is she bound hand and foot, and at his mercy; do the men who do the labor, become millionaires; *never*. The owners alone do that; what protection do you need, for a machine costing \$7.50, which you sell for \$75.00; are you in danger from the pauper labor of Europe. Congress made infamous

laws which made Lucian Sharpe a millionaire. Congress made other infamous laws which made Sidney Rider a beggar. Such things are not the proper functions of a republican, or any other form of government.

Under such conditions I have written; if I did wrong, then wrong I have done; but I do not yet see it.

Then these people undertake to control public sentiment here by the purchase and control of the *Journal*, into which nothing is allowed to appear which runs counter, to this, or any other system of legalized robbery. Under such conditions what likelihood is there of this *Journal's* ever telling the truth concerning any economic question. It cannot, whether it be one of money, or currency, or labor, or wages, or tariff taxation, it cannot; it must be, that which it has always been, the friend of those who rob the earnings of men.

Let me cite one more thing from this *Journal*. It was an Editorial printed 30th June. It concerned the strike of the workers in Tin. The *Journal* said "The strikers struck because of their dislike to the methods lately adopted by tin plate manufacturers; and because of the known fact that a fair share of the enormous profits which the tariff has made possible in this industry has not been divided with the employees." Whom does protection protect any way. The President of the Journal Company must call his own Editor into the street.

BOOK NOTES in its last issue, reproduced from the *Journal* of June 28th, this letter, which itself explains its origin:

June 14, 1899.

George H. Webb, Esq., Secretary, Providence Board of Trade:

Dear Sir—I have received a communi-

cation from the Board of Trade under the date of June 6, 1899, requesting me to ask the opinion of Supreme Court as to the constitutionality of section 11, chapter 44, of General laws of Rhode Island, and effecting corporated companies. have come to the conclusion that the constitutionality of the act passed by the General Assembly of the State is not one of those questions which, under my constitutional right, I ought to submit to the Judges of the Supreme Court for an opinion.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) ELISHA DYER, Governor.

Upon a certain clause in the letter, the writer commented severely; he now finds that this clause was not written by Governor Dyer, but was a forgery by the *Journal*. Here is the real letter written by the Governor to the Secretary of the Board of Trade.

DEAR SIR:—

I have received a communication from the Providence Board of Trade, under date of June 6th, 1899, requesting me to ask the opinion of the Supreme Court as to the constitutionality of Section IV, Chapter 44, of the General Laws of Rhode Island, and after carefully considering the same have come to the conclusion that the constitutionality of the Act passed by the General Assembly of the State is not one of those question which under my constitutional right, I ought to submit to the Judges of the Supreme Court for an opinion.

Very respectfully yours,

ELISHA DYER, Governor.

The *Journal's* act was despicable; it was an attempt to make Governor Dyer appear ridiculous; and BOOK NOTES is sorry that it fell into the trap; but it will not stay in it: the acts of a Governor are open to public criticism; he is a public officer; but he is entitled to decent treatment, by virtue of his office,

from the leading newspapers of the state; differ, if you will, but be honest; don't "forge" public documents. In the present instance, there are now pending two cases, touching the constitutionality of this tax exemption law, before the appellate court; hence it could not be proper for the supreme court to answer the Governor's question, had he attempted to put a question. Nevertheless, BOOK NOTES still cannot accept the Governor's position, that "the constitutionality of the act in question, is not one of those questions which under my constitutional right I ought to submit to the Supreme Court." BOOK NOTES thinks that it was exactly the kind of an act, which the constitution permits him to submit, and required the court to answer. This clause of the constitution has been a snare for the Supreme Court Judges for forty years; and the letter of the law has been violated day by day. The section so far as it relates to the matter under discussion reads as follows: "They (the Judges of the Supreme Court) shall give their written opinion upon any question of law whenever requested by the Governor." The provision as it stands, is absurd; but there it stands, and it must be obeyed, or the constitution violated. There must be "questions of law" which a Governor might present, and which if answered by the court would destroy the constitutional rights of parties, thus the constitution must be broken in protecting such rights.

The sale under foreclosure of the Nottingham Cotton Mill, here on the 27th July, is a fact which deserves a more permanent record than the columns of the *Journal* can give to it. In 1884 this mill was mortgaged to the Peoples Savings Bank for \$185,000. The property was taxed that year, for \$214,900; in

1886 the same tax was continued and the corporation was taxed, on \$46,000 personal property; in 1888 the personal property tax disappeared, and the real estate tax was reduced to \$200.380. In 1890 the name disappeared for the Tax Books, nevertheless the statement was made, that this (1899) years tax had not been paid and that the buyer would be obliged to pay it. The property was not sold at the recent tax sale by the city treasurer. Some portion of the mortgage (perhaps \$40,000) had been paid. How the Savings Bank can justify its action, in taking such a risk even at the time it was taken is not to be seen. It has now lost by the shrinkage in real estate values. The Bank took this mortgage fifteen years ago; the decline in the values of commodities, and in real estate values by the destruction of silver money, had neither been suggested, nor observed, by men who considered themselves most wise, and most acute. One of these wise men in talking with the writer did not consider the decline in prices attributable to silver, but to the decreasing railroad freights; and to the resumption of specie payments after our war with the South. He argues, that the decline of Brazilian coffee, in London, was caused by the declining railroad freight in this country, and by the U. S. resumption of specie payments. *There* is financial logic, with a vengeance. Pity be to the man who cannot see the utter falsity of his own reasoning. The slightest examination of the Sauerbeck prices of commodities will show the decline; it is a demonstrable fact; neither argument, nor opinion, will avail against them; the decline has come, it is real, and not yet ended; it has come to stay; it will stay unless silver is restored, or something else found to take the place, as actual money which silver held. No mere "redecu-

able" money will answer; either that, or increase of property must cease; the *ratio* which existed in 1873, between *property*, and *money* must be restored, and BOOK NOTES believes that it will be restored. The Wauregan Mill another Cotton Mill owned wholly here, and partly by the Nottingham Mill owners goes under the hammer in a few days to the highest bidder; The Harris Mill at Woonsocket which cost \$1,250,000 has just been sold (so the Journal says) "for \$200,000 or less"; the Stillwater Mill has recently been sold; it cost the owners \$500,000 and brought them at the auction \$25,100, and a Pascoag Mill sold also for a tithe of the cost; the Allendale Mill valued by its owners at something like \$800,000 is for sale; one would think that the owners would shiver, as these facts came to them. The

highest tariff ever known has been given to them, but the search for an "honest" dollar has been too much for them.

If Josiah Allen's wife, can make me, and mine, laugh as once she did, with her "Betsey Bobbetts" how it will delight us; that is why we smiled when we saw by the *Ladies Home Journal* for August, that she was going to try; this time it is with "My Stylish Cousin's Daughter," that we are to become acquainted.

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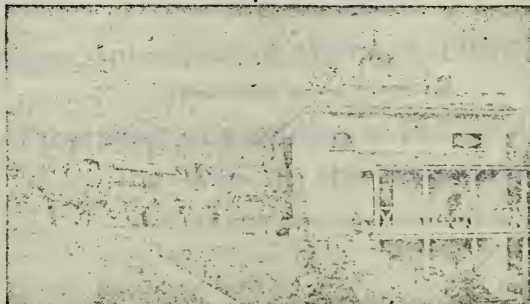
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SATURDAY, AUG. 19, 1899.

VOL. 16.
No. 17.

A New York subscriber to BOOK NOTES asks it for an account of the "revocation" of the Decree of Banishment passed in 1635 against Roger Williams; the Newport *Herald* gave, on the 24th of April, an account of the matter in which it said: "A petition praying for a revocation of the edict was presented to the Bay State Legislature last week and will be favorably acted upon immediately;" but it was not so acted upon, and the *Herald* goes wrong in saying that "Roger Williams may now return to Massachusetts if he wants to without running any risk of being arrested." The facts are as follows: The following Petition, dated Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 21, 1898, was presented to the Massachusetts House of Representatives on the 18th of April, 1899:

Whereas—The General Court of Massachusetts Bay—at their session in Cambridge (New Town) Mass., passed a sentence of banishment—against Roger Williams—Oct. 19, 1635.

Whereas—Hon. John Winthrop, first Governor of Mass. Bay—requested that Roger Williams be recalled—his sentence revoked—and he duly honored—which was refused.

Whereas—Roger Williams' Doctrine of religious liberty—for advocating which—he was banished—has become

the fundamental sentiment of Christendom—

Therefore—

Resolved—We the citizens of Cambridge, Mass., and others—Petition the Honorable Legislature—at your earliest convenience to pass—

An Act—Revoking said sentence of Banishment—and your petitioners—will ever pray.

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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RESOLVE to provide for the revocation of the sentence of expulsion of Roger Williams, passed by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay in 1635.

RESOLVED, That the sentence of expulsion passed against Roger Williams by the General Court of Massachusetts

Bay in the year sixteen hundred and thirty-five be revoked.

The long delay in presenting the Petition prevented any action, for the reason that the time had expired in which new business could be presented; it was referred, under the rule, to the next General Court. The moving spirit in the matter was the last signer upon it, the Rev. T. M. Merriman of Cambridge, an aged clergyman, who is the author of a book bearing this title: "The Pilgrims, Puritans and Roger Williams Vindicated; and his Sentence of Banishment Ought to be Revoked." It was published in Boston in 1892, by Bradley & Woodruff. The author is a Baptist clergyman, brimful of Baptist bias, and his book not only preserves all the old errors, but creates new ones; BOOK NOTES called attention to some of them at the time the book was issued. This revocation scheme has once before been tried, and failed, let us hope now that the result will be the same; it is absurd nonsense. A revocation can change nothing. The General Court acted sufficiently erroneous in 1533; everybody knows that it would do no such thing now; but why attempt to expunge a record which cannot be expurged.

So far as the question of manufacture goes, a book sent by Mr. H. Gregory to BOOK NOTES is the best made in Providence for many a day. Admirably printed by Mr. Robert Grieve, upon rough deckel edged paper, with a rubricated title, bound in dark green cloth, with gilt tops, and its name is "A Bundle of Yarns;" it is written by Fred W. Shibley. Nothing is said in the book of the locality of the scenes, in which a large proportion of the "Yarns" are laid. It is supposed to be Canada, but now at all events Mr. Shibley is a resi-

dent of Providence. The language is the vernacular of the countryside; at least it is a cross between the urban and the suburban; it is picturesque, it is graphic, it bears the deep impress of the exuberance of youth, and is overflowing with quiet and not unrefined humor. There are 16 stories, and not a dull nor silly one among the lot; some are truly pathetic, more especially the last, "The Willipers" and the "Wolf at the Door;" these four tales are mental photographs of Rhode Island work-people. The scenes are Olneyville, and Pawtucket, and Field's Point, and Down the Bay, and Crescent Park, and Rocky Point, and Newport "the Mecca of Millionaires," and Bull Dog Square, and the little tenement in the alley which led from the "Square." This last sketch strikes the writer as truly pathetic; but it is curious how we look at things. Concerning these sketches my illustrious contemporary the *Providence Journal*, thus holds forth: "in touching, even lightly, upon the lives of the poor and their connection with the "vexed" labor question, Mr. Shibley has destroyed the harmony of his book; as social studies they hardly go deep enough, as tales they have no great human interest." Such a paragraph is very instructive; it illustrates, even in an attempt at literary review, the animosity which the *Journal* has always exhibited toward men who "merely" labor. Mr. Shibley's book is exceedingly clever and creditable to all concerned; there is nothing "politically" offensive, even in its pictures of the poverty, and the misery of the workers whodwell at Bull Dog Square for every word he wrote was the downright truth; but what the *Journal* does not know about inharmonious truth is scarcely worth knowing.

Looked at from the standpoint of construction, Mr. J. Howard Moore's new book, entitled "*Better World Philosophy*," is the most remarkable book which has ever fallen under the writer's notice. Here is an example: "We manage or modify the inanimate universe in two ways; first by direct application of the energies of our bodies to contacting tendencies; and and secondly by means of inventions;" that is sufficiently clear when you once understand it—but it takes an ordinary mortal some time to understand it. Here is another example: "If there were but one being in the universe a low desire would be either one affording to the possessor in its satisfaction, relatively small results, or one whose satisfaction in itself important, were impaired by the neutralizing effects upon the satisfaction of other desires possessed by that being." All our desires arise because of the existence of other beings—were there but one being existing such being could have no desire. The style of writing is involved, and will be to most people obscure. Nevertheless there is reason in it—and often immense strength. But the trouble with it is, that in these frivolous times, men will not take the time to "get at" the meaning of an author of such a peculiar style. The author is of Chicago, and the book is Socialistic. He discusses the fact of existence; the problem of labor; the relations of men to each other; how it came to pass that Egoism and Altruism developed. These two words Egoism and Altruism have come recently into use in Socialistic discussions from their use by Kidd in his "*Social Evolution*." The word Egoism is defined metaphysically as "a belief on the part of an individual that there is no proof that anything exists but his own mind;" in Ethics the words mean "the theory which regards self-

interest as the foundation of morality; in actual life it means solely selfish aims and purposes. Altruistic purposes are those which are directly opposite; Egoism hence means excessive self-love developed into utter selfishness, "the most insolent and the most extravagant in the world;" "it becomes the parent of all human misery, for it makes life a commodity; misery a disease; and systematic massacre a pastime and a profession." Such is the terrible denunciation of Mr. Moore of the present relations of men; but he has hopes of better things to come; and they are to come through a process of scientific stirpiculture in humanity, just as we breed horses and cattle. The Oneida Community tried some such scheme, but the result is not yet apparent. Once create men correctly and egoism will cease; education will be formed upon entirely new bases and *actual* regeneration will follow. Such is Mr. Moore's idea, set forth with great care and great force in these chapters; first, the "Social Ideal;" second is "Race Culture, and last "Industrial Culture;" following which will be, I suppose, the millenium; but the scientific breeding of children, by order of the State Board of Health is, I fear, a pastime a long way off; the breeding of pigs is far more probable; and hence as a preliminary factor in reform it appears quite visionary. The book is beautifully printed and published by the Ward Waugh Company of Chicago, and is well worth reading by educated people, for the "terrible tenacity" of its facts; and its fearless setting forth of the "needs of the Social organism;" to all these we must agree with Mr. Moore; but as to a means to an end we may differ in the matter of stirpiculture.

Miss Virginia Baker of Warren, R. I., contributed a clever criticism of Mr. Bicknell's History of Barrington, so far as the transference of the location of

the Indian Sowams is concerned, to the N. E. Hist. Gen. Register for July; and some copies were printed separately from the *Register*. This paper was offered first to the Rhode Island Historical Society, accepted, eviscerated by the secretary, Mr. Perry, and finally withdrawn, save upon the condition that, if printed, it must be printed as originally written. It is adroit, and adds to the position already taken by the writer hereof; the position taken by Miss Baker in the matter of springs of running water, and their close connection with all Indian villages is extremely good; this, taken in connection with the fact, as the lady sets forth, that there are no springs on New Meadow Neck, is a strong argument in favor of Warren as being the site of Ancient Sowams. In fact there is no case for the author of the History of Barrington.

To what kind of a government is this Republic coming? The New York *Times* of the 2d inst. gives an account of Col. John Jacob Astor's Military Company. Mr. Astor is spending the summer at Rhinebeck, Dutchess county, N. Y. At Pine Plains, in the same county, he has in camp a military company of 75 men. It is within 15 or 20 miles of his residence. The men are clad in the "U. S. regulation uniform and knapsacks" and "comfortably quartered in a dozen tents." Now why is such a thing tolerated. Is every millionaire to be allowed to raise and command an army and take it about the country at his own will. Every uniform and every knapsack has upon it the name A S T O R in letters of appropriate gold.

A prominent feature of the August *Review of Reviews* is the illustrated article on "The America's Cup Race in

1899," which tells the story of the cup itself and the famous contests for its possession, describes the new challenger and defender, and adds much interesting detail about the chief personalities concerned on both sides in the approaching race

The August number of the *Century* is a midsummer number; it is all good, but the paper by John Burroughs in which he gives a glimpse of the wild life around his slab-sided cottage or cabin, near the Hudson river bank at West Park is very happily set forth; it is in fact the perfection of a summertime paper of the countryside; the birds, the flowers, the brooks, the trees, all contribute happiness to men.

A letter was printed in the *Sunday Journal*, written by E. C. Stevens of this city, inquiring concerning "the bulk of his property," which Stevens says H. L. Kendall "bequeathed to the Providence Public Library;" the editor of the *Journal* makes one of those replies, which is no answer. The use of this great gift is a matter which would well repay investigation. There is food for reflection, in case certain matters, now hinted at, are true.

A fine set of "*The Country Gentleman's Magazine*" (English) in 10 vols. in fine antique half calf binding is at 52 Snow street for sale for less than the cost of the binding, viz: \$9.80. It has elaborate biographical articles on the Landed Proprietors of England; the English Country Homes; Farm Architecture; the English Gardens; Rambles by the Roads and Rivers; Stables and Kennels; the English Poultry Yards; Hunting, Fishing and Shooting; Portraiture of English Domestic Animals; the English Gentlewomen, with thousands of other similar matters. The set, being the first series complete, has 1176 fine engravings.

The concerts given by the American Band at Roger Williams Park are a genuine benediction to the people of Providence. The music is selected with admirable skill, considered in relation to the character of the audiences; there are given numbers adapted to the highest musically educated people, and well approved by such listeners, and there are more "popular" numbers well adapted to those less trained, but lovers still. The scope of selection is admirable in tone; and whoever "pays the bills" is a genuine benefactor of the people. But we owe a debt to Mr. Reeves; as well. The other night the band gave with admirable execution and wonderful effect the Grand Fantasia from Lohengrin; there were no stringed instruments, but the effect of "wood wind," as it is now the fashion to write of flutes and clarinets, assisted by the euphonium and the bass tubas, was almost magical. This performance was more than equalled by the rendering of the Tower Song from "Il Trovatore," the climax of which was the duet of Manrico and Leonora. The trombone was Manrico in the tower; so Mr. Roussie went over the hill, while the cornet, representing Leonora, was played by Mr. Church. The

effect was admirable, and it was very much heightened when the male voices of the entire band came in with the miserere.

In October last BOOK NOTES published a carefully prepared paper concerning Banks and Banking in Providence; the result has justified the publication; the continued demand for the article induces the writer to publish certain ideas then in mind which have since assumed form, and which concern all people who are saving in money, otherwise called investors; these papers will relate to the directorships of national and state banks, savings banks and trust companies; how these boards are composed; the nature and influence of business interests therein, and the personnel and the "dead timber" upon them; followed by the results attained in special instances; these matters will be considered in a series of papers in BOOK NOTES in several issues, with what ever integrity the writer possesses and sufficient courage; that they will be of great interest and value to the prudent part of the people of Providence is the firm belief of the writer. The subscription price for BOOK NOTES is 50 cents a year. A single issue may save you hundreds of dollars.

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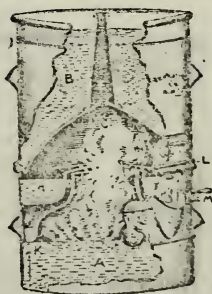
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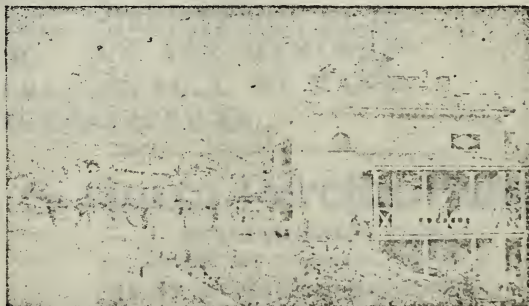
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No. 18.

The American Band Concerts at the Park.

M. D. ELDRED.

That the closing weeks of the season of Reeves' American Band at Roger William's Park show no falling off in the character of the programmes, in the thoroughly artistic work of the band, or in the size and enthusiasm of the audiences, was evident at last Sunday evening's concert. It is fortunate for Providence that Mr. Reeves brings to the difficult task of providing for so heterogeneous an audience as naturally gathers at these concerts, not only the requisite musicianly qualities, but also an evidently sincere desire to respond to the wishes of his listeners, so far as they are made known through requests or otherwise. His success is shown by such a programme as that of Sunday evening, ranging from numbers popular in the best sense of the word, as two of Mr. Reeves' spirited marches, selections from "The Mikado," and a beautiful German arrangement of "Home, Sweet Home," to the strongly dramatic "Robespierre" overture, and selections from Saint-Saëns oratorio of "Samson and Delilah" and Wagner's magnificent opera "Die Walküre." Such a performance as that of "Die Walküre" is a revelation of the possibilities of a brass

band in handling an orchestral work; and its educational value is hardly to be overestimated, in view of the comparative inaccessibility of grand opera and symphony concerts.

It is of course undeniable that much of Wagner's infinite richness of tone color is lost without a large body of strings, yet for many purposes of study the band arrangement is extremely satisfactory. This is especially true in the observation of Wagner's use of the *Leit motif*, in which the comparative simplicity of arrangement enforced upon the band is perhaps not altogether a disadvantage. It would certainly be difficult for the orchestral 'cellos and basses to impress upon one more deeply than does the euphonium, the melancholy beauty of the Walsung motive, which seems to carry in its half-dozen notes all the sorrow and suffering of the ill fated race which it represents. The strings are also effectively replaced by the clarinets and other instruments in the scene of Siegmund's Love Song, in which are blended the motives of Love and Sympathy; while the Valkyries' Ride, which even with the original orchestration is chiefly dependent for its effect upon the trombones and trumpets, has still less to lose by the change. The finale shows at once the greatest strength of the band and its greatest

weakness as compared with an adequate orchestra. The flaming, leaping lightness of the Magic Fire is quite unattainable by it; yet even that fault does not rob this wonderful passage, the Valkyrie's Magic Sleep, of its beauty or its power. So fine is the effect of the Slumber Motive, sung again and again by the clarinets, and interrupted with dramatic significance by the motive of Siegfried, which finally enters with thrilling power on the bass trombone, as to recall with the vividness of actual presence this marvelous scene, which in splendor of pictorial effect and in the dramatic intensity with which it takes hold upon the imagination, stands alone even among the Wagner operas.

The contract between the silence with which such music as this is received and the demonstrations made over the "rag-time" selections and popular airs which sometimes find place on the mid-week programmes, especially in the solo numbers, does not seem at first thought a reassuring indication of the popular taste. Yet it is not necessarily to be wholly so construed. Deep impressions upon a musical temperament are scarcely likely to result in a demonstrative mood; and the Wagner lover especially, even if a stranger to Baireuth with its rule of absolute silence, has probably shared with Metropolitan audiences the spirit of absorption and reverence which makes violent expression seem almost an impertinence. The absence of applause is therefore not a proof that classical music is unappreciated by many among the Park audiences; especially when observation reveals how much of the noise made over the "popular" numbers is contributed by the small boy who hasn't been listening, but is glad of an excuse to whistle.

It seems unfortunate that the ten-

dency at popular concerts to demand and grant encores should often be carried so far as to result in the cutting of the published programme, and the consequent loss of selections of far greater musical value than the encore numbers, which are usually very light in character. The spirit which prompts a soloist to respond so generously is most admirable; but in the end the tendency supported by Theodore Thomas, and now so prevalent among musical leaders, to keep strictly to the programme, and grant encores only in exceptional cases, seems the wiser policy.

The Financial "Rot" of the Newspapers.

The New York *Times* of Aug. 7th, 1899, published this in its financial supplement from its London correspondent: "And we are by no means clear of the danger of a South African war, which would temporarily shut off the Rand gold supply. On the other hand, the new decree ordering a gold standard for India seems a kind of owlish joke, since India is unable to collect gold save by borrowing."

And on the 12th of the same month this by the editor: "The establishment of the gold standard in British India is an event of the happiest augury for this country if we may be permitted to assume that the curiously close relation between the Indian currency policy and our own is to continue."

Fortunately the editor of the *Times* "may be permitted so assume," for assumption will be all that he will ever get.

On the 11th of August, the same *Times* published this concerning the testimony given before the commission to investigate the Indian currency: "This com-

mission was made up of the most influential statesmen and financiers of England, and the testimony before them was given by such eminent authority as Lord Rothschild, head of the great firm of Rothschild; Lord Aldenham, former Governor of the Bank of England; the Earl of Northbrock, former Governor General of India; Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Lieutenant Governor of Bengal; Prof. Marshall of the University of Cambridge, and practically all of the students and scholars of economic questions in Great Britain. The sessions were private, and the testimony, as well as the final report, has now been made public for the first time."

But the *Times* does not print the fact, for it is a fact, that every one of "eminent authority" it cites, were unequivocally in favor of bimetalism; hence its positions are positively false. Can the *Times* by falsification change the course of these events. Then it loudly proclaims, and the *Journal* here echoes, that "the silver standard for India will never be restored" well, what if it wont. Nobody wants it—but bimetalism will come in spite of the *Journal* or the *Times*, or all the newspapers printed in English.

But the self-stultification of the New York *Sun* is edifying. Now it yells for gold; but here is what the *Sun* said on the 18th of March, 1885: "Such a continual fall in prices as we have had for ten years past kills all enterprises and restricts trade to the limits of absolute necessity. A rise in prices, such as would follow their measurement in silver, would revive confidence and encourage trade. Men would see a prospective profit in purchases where they now see only a loss; and they would buy freely where they now buy stingily. If active trade is desirable at all, the way to create it is by adopting the silver

standard and giving up all efforts to maintain that of gold." It was the truth then, and it is the truth now just the same.

The Young Men's Christian Association has arranged a course of entertainments for the coming autumn which promises pleasure to Providence people. There are six, and all for a dollar, a Yankee shilling each. The first, given 20th of October, is by the *London Glee Singers*. It will consist of old English Folk songs from the excellent selection by the Rev. S. Baring Gould. The *London Times* of May 14th, 1898, wrote this of these things: "The London Glee Singers made a welcome appearance at the Royal Institution. The songs were excellently sung. They were charming, and greatly delighted the large audience that heard them." The second entertainment, which follows on the 17th of November, will also be very new and very interesting; it is Mr. Charles D. Kellogg's "Bird Carnival." This gentleman has made a study of bird songs, which he renders, with the aid of a stereopticon the audience sees the birds, and listens to their songs at the same time; so marvellously life-like are Mr. Kellogg's reproductions that the audience finds itself in the "skirts" of the wild woods in mid-summer. The Christian Association offers charming entertainments.

What it was that so impressed us when we saw for the first time an engraving from Millet's great picture which he named *The Angelus* we cannot tell, but it was something. Two peasants, a man and woman, at the sound of the Angelus bell from a distant church, have stopped their work and stand in the field praying with bowed heads. I would be hard to conceive a more

simple and pathetic representation of peasant life in France; but whatever it was, it touched also the hearts of all mankind. For the picture, painted in 1859, was sold at Paris in 1890 for \$150,000. In the little village of Barbizon in the forest of Fontainebleau there still lives Mere Adele in a little cottage within a stone's throw from the spot of her birth. It was Mere Adele who suggested his ideal to Millet. When he saw his nurse-girl, Adele, and her father reverently bowing their heads in prayer at the ringing of the Angelus he conceived the picture. The Woman's Home Companion for September has a beautiful paper about Mere Adele, the Woman of the Angelus.

The *Journal* of August 8th printed Gov. Dyer's letter, a forgery upon which it printed on the 28th of June last, as was pointed out in the last BOOK NOTES; the Semitic editor now says, "which was inaccurately printed in the *Journal's* report." That paper made no report, but two weeks after the letter was sent, it was discovered by the editor and printed with the interpolations. Under the exposure of BOOK NOTES the *Journal* gets into line.

The pomposity of people here is something sometimes comical; somebody opened a shop on Westminster street in which extortionate rents had ruined all men who had ever attempted to occupy it, as a place for bootblacking under this style: *Professor George & Company, Imperial Boot Black Parlors*. The building is rented by the Low (W. H.) Land Company. Professor George has this sign: "Durby Hats Cleaned."

Everybody thinks he drinks Java coffee; but just look at these figures; from July, '98, to July, '99, there came

to the United States from Java 32 million pounds, while from Brazil there came 1151 million pounds. I once saw Frank Goddard making a calculation of how many times, in a life time, each man in this country ate a piece of tenderloin. So it is with Java coffee.

The Journal of Commerce Publishing Company, sends BOOK NOTES a very pretty advertising guide it has recently issued. It is a "guide to the mountains of New Hampshire," and to the shores of Southern New England, edited by Robert Grieve, who is expert in this line. It has upward of 80 illustrations of the favorite "resting places" on Rhode Island, and touches but all too lightly, the White Hills of the North. The price is 10 cents.

From the scare headings in the newspaper, *Another Christian Science Victim*, one might be led to suppose that there were no Victims of Regular Doctors. BOOK NOTES would be glad to print the portrait of any physician who can with mere drugs cure *any* disease. The newspapers here gave no scare heading when a person, certified by the State Board of Health, to be a physician and surgeon, rammed a catheter through the crown of an old man's bladder, and then gave natural causes as the reason of the old man's death. That, too, in this city.

The State Board of Education of Rhode Island makes this statement: "Where clubs may be formed for the purpose of study, or consecutive reading, of any subject, for which several books of the same kind are needed, the Board will purchase the necessary books, and loan them for one year to the public library of that place." Why not supply these "clubs" with shoes,

and stockings, and shirts. Such a scheme is an abomination; it is the taxation of people to buy books upon Fishing, or Forestry, or Browning, or Boot-blackening for "clubs" all over the State. It is worse than nonsense, it is downright wickedness.

An attractive pictorial souvenir of Attleboro has just been published by Messrs. Dart & Bigelow, of this city. It contains about 75 views of scenes in and around Attleboro, made by the Albertype process, from photographs, which have been carefully selected, and used with skill by Mr. Dart. It will be much sought by those who now live in distant parts of the country.

The commercial morals of the Jew editor of the *Journal* is cleverly shown by a couple of recent locals. On the 26th ult., an account of the passing here among the smaller merchants of a lot of fraudulent checks, every one a forgery; eighteen so far have been heard from." This, the Jew editor calls "*making a good thing out of a number of merchants.*" Just so it was with the stealing of \$10,000 from the counter of a Boston bank a few weeks since, this robbery the Jew editor calls "*a good haul.*" It is exactly upon these

lines that the *Journal* lauds and upholds the action of the English government in demonetizing silver in India. It robbed 300 millions of men of just one-half their money. The London bankers made what this Jew editor considers a *good haul*.

A set comprising vols 1-4 (1826 1830) of the "Magazine of the Reformed Dutch Church, published at New York City, is for sale at 52 Snow St., price \$2.50. This church was then an extensive, and flourishing church, moreover a very wealthy church; this Magazine was established by order of the General Synod, and is filled with abstracts of Dutch church history from manuscripts, and early printed documents, it contains many notices of distinguished families; this set came from the Bogert family, and has such notices within it.

It is a matter for congratulation that Mr. Peter Brucker, Jr., will bring the Rev. Norman Plass to punishment for suggesting that Mr. Peter Brucker, Jr., would do such a vile thing as selling a man rum on Sunday. It was from such uses that the name "Courts of Justice" doubtless came. It is fortunate that lawyers can be found who will protect and defend the fair fame and good name of such injured innocents as Mr. Peter.

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A Century of Banks and Banking in Rhode Island.

FIRST PAPER.

Neither under the Colonial Government of Rhode Island, now under the State Government, until 1791, did any system of banking, or of currency exist, nor was there at that time any system of currency devised. From 1710 to 1786, Paper Bills of credit, had been issued upon occasions, of pressure upon the Government, and also upon occasions, in blocks called "Banks" which were loaned to the people, upon mortgages, upon real estate. These Bills were "Fiat" money pure and simple, not redeemable in any thing, any where. The General Assembly made laws declaring the Bills equal to Silver; but the Bills fell in value, as compared with silver, before the ink used in printing the law was dry; the General Assembly made them legal tender, except for "specialities," and when these "specialities" were not specialized, it became a penal offence on the part of a creditor who refused them. It is a singular circumstance that the Bills of the Tenth Bank, the last one created, fell to 15 to 1, in silver within three years of their issue, and were finally taken back at that ratio by taxation; thirty years time being given. These "Banks" as above

stated were loaned to the people on real estate mortgages. These mortgages were rarely paid; and thousands of them were never paid; the state holds them even to this day; many of which are nearly 200 years old. At the October session 1791, the Providence Bank was chartered by the General Assembly. Before that time only four Banks had been chartered in this country; one by Congress, in 1781, in Philadelphia, the Bank of North America; one by the General Court of Massachusetts, in Boston, the Massachusetts Bank, in 1784; one in New York by the General Assembly, the Bank of New York in 1784; one in Baltimore, by the Maryland General Assembly, the Bank of Maryland; and one in Rhode Island, as above stated. On page 9, of the Presidents (William Goddard's) Address at the centennial of the Providence Bank there is a statement concerning the establishment, and re-establishment of this Bank of North America, which the present writer regards as most unfair, and must inaccurate. For instance it is stated that this Bank was chartered by Congress, which is true; but it is further stated that this charter was "repealed by the Pennsylvania Assembly," an act which the present writer had not supposed to be possible; then President Goddard gives these, as the reasons which caused the repeal.

in the words of the repealers, "it was in every way inconsistent with the public safety, and promotive of usury, extortion, favoritism, harshness to debtors, and the possession of undue and dangerous, political, and commercial influence." And, then continues Mr. Goddard "It was thus determined that the existence of a *Bank* was incompatible with that equality which ought ever to prevail between the individuals of a republic." There is an air cynicism here which is not pleasant; but much worse is the error of statement. Let me state the powers given by Congress in this charter to the twelve gentleman. They could issue Bank Notes, upon no terms of redemption, neither in silver, nor gold, nor specie; these bills were everywhere in this country, then under the jurisdiction of Congress, a legal tender for all debts; and were receivable in payment of all customs duties. No other Bank could be chartered in Pennsylvania by Congress; nor could any State government grant a charter with such powers. It was greenbackism in its worst form; had the charter continued Congress would have been forced to grant similar powers to a Bank at New York; and another at Boston; and in fact at all ports of entry. Would the President of the Providence Bank desire to go upon record in support of such a "wild cat" scheme; it was not true, which the President of the Providence Bank states that "the existence of a *Bank* was incompatible with that equality" but men objected to *such* a Bank.

But let us come to the establishment here of the Providence Bank in 1791. The promoters here were the Browns—the firm of Brown & Ives did not then exist. The reasons given by the promoters for subscriptions for the stock were "the great profit on the rise in the values of the stocks," in those four above mentioned, and the "scarcity of

specie as a medium of trade." The Charter permitted subscription for 625 shares at \$400 each, which would give a capital of \$250,000 with an expansion clause reaching to \$500,000.

The book of subscriptions for the stock was opened at the State House in Providence at 10 o'clock a. m., and kept open until 6 o'clock p. m., when it was stated that 1324 shares had been taken; this if true would have given the Bank a starting capital of \$529,000; but President Goddard states that \$180,000 was the opening capital; the par value of the shares was placed at \$400 from the fact that the Bank of North America stock had been so fixed, a short time before. The stock could only be taken at the State House in Providence; a block of stock was reserved, so public announcement was made for the General Government; and another block was reserved for the R. I. State Government, but neither block was even taken. President Goddard states: "It was not until 1825 that the capital was increased to \$500,000. But it appears from a statement made by the Bank, in 1805, to the General Treasurer of the state, that the capital was then \$400,000. In every form and upon every occasion, the idea is presented that the Bank promoters scheme, was solely because they found "it necessary for the public utility" it "facilitated the payment of taxes," it "promoted punctuality in the performance of contracts;" it "prevented the export of specie;" it was not apparently a merely "business" enterprize on the part of the promoters, it was rather, an altruistic undertaking. There was no power in the Charter granting power to issue Bank Bills unless it came by implication for the punishment provided for forgery of any "note or check of, or on said Bank." But this punishment was simply the general statute of the state, then existing and added (with no force) to this particular charter; the

remedy to the Bank was exactly the same; with or without, the clause. But Bank bills were issued. It was for the Directors of the Providence Bank that the General Assembly enacted the terrible clause which came to be known as the "Bank Process." The power consisted in this; when default in payment of a note was made by a debtor the Directors, *shall* and may cause a demand of payment to be made, in writing, on the person, and in case the money is not paid within ten days from the day of demand the Directors could cause the clerk of any court of Common Pleas, in any County to issue instantly a writ of execution, *capias ad satisfaciendum*, which is a writ of final possession, following a judgment usually obtained by ordinary legal process. But in the case of this Bank ordinary legal process was not necessary, the General Assembly directed that such an outrageous proceeding should be just as valid "as if the same had issued on a judgment regularly obtained;" but there were other conditions favorable to the Bank and unfavorable to the borrower. A person obtaining a discount at this Bank was obliged to write upon the note, that it was "negotiable" only at the Providence Bank; the word negotiable was used instead of the words "payable at;" this was to give the Bank Directors notice of default before any other person could get such notice, and take instantaneous action; thus this Bank could obtain judgment, execution, and possession of the property of a debtor before any other person could have knowledge of a failure. In the granting of subsequent charters some changes still more drastic, in favor of the Banks were made. These changes the Providence Bank asked to have given to the Directors and they were given; the words "and may" were stricken out, so that the Bank had no power to delay summary action against a man; and the ten days grace

clause in the charter was also stricken out. The General Assembly entitled the law "An Act to enlarge the privileges of the Providence Bank" and so it was relieved from the burden of oppression which rested upon it. Such was the final power of the "Bank Process" in Rhode Island; a law which the late Benjamin Hazard, in the General Assembly, in 1818 said resulted "in drawing into the Banks *all the property* of insolvent debtors to the exclusion of nearly every other creditor. For 45 years the Providence Bank held and used these terrible powers. No Bank Charters after 1818 contained the clause, but those which contained it, were not deprived of it until 1836.

President Goddard in his address (page 9) speaks in a cynical way of the opinions of those who, in 1785, were opposed, because of the "harshness to debtors," which the charter by Congress to the *Bank of North America* permitted. But not a suspicion of this Bank Process nor anything akin to it can be found in it; nor in the Massachusetts charter, nor in the New York charter; but in the Baltimore charter, granted in March, 1791, seven months before the granting of the Providence Bank charter, it stands just as it first appears in the charter of our bank. The Browns brought it into Providence, obtained its enactment, and for nearly half a century profited by it. It had no long existence outside of Rhode Island, for the Maryland bank failed; it was never adjudicated here, because the General Assembly was the Court of last resort. In February, 1818, a law was enacted preventing the introduction into any bank charter of this "Bank Process," but, horrible to relate, ten new bank charters were granted in that month, but before the passage of this act of prevention. The present Merchants Bank was one of them. There were then

thirty banks which possessed and used these powers. It was long held that chartered rights, once given, could not be revoked, but in 1836 these rights were taken away by the General Assembly. In subsequent papers this history will be continued, but upon one point never before suggested the writer wishes to dwell a moment. The action of the R. I. General Assembly in May, 1786, in the matter of a penal statute against creditors who would not receive the discredited paper bills of credit in payment of debts contracted upon a precisely similar paper basis, has been long held up to public indignation. Only five years later, in 1791, this same General Assembly enacted this equally infamous Bank Process, giving one creditor all the property of a debtor without the trouble even of a legal process. The following gentlemen presumably served their constituents upon both occasions:

Samuel J. Potter, Thomas G. Hazard,
John Cooke, James Congdon,
Thomas Hoxie, Thomas Holden,
George Champlin, John Topham,
Welcome Arnold, Jonathan J. Hazard,
Seth Hunt, Christ'her Champlin,
William Bradford, John Lapham,
Edward Smith.

David Howell, to whom all credit has been given for his stand as a judge, in 1786, against the act of the Assembly, is not on record against the equally infamous act of 1791, but he was a member. Jabez Bowen was a Director in the Providence Bank, and he was Deputy Governor in the General Assembly when the 1786 Bank Law was made, arresting creditors.

Welcome Arnold, who served in both these General Assemblies, was a Director in the Providence Bank when the charter was granted.

John Harris was a member in 1791 when the "Bank Process" was enacted; he became a Judge of the Common

Pleas, and a few years later, President of the Farmers Exchange Bank, which failed at Chepatchet, with outstanding bills of \$580,000, and assets of \$86.00. BOOK NOTES will come to this interesting subject presently. Such was the beginning of Banks, not only in Rhode Island, but in this country. A few men sought, and obtained at the hands of legislative powers, advantages over their fellow men, which happily were destroyed, but not until very great wrongs had been done.

The *Daily News* (London) published a few days since a letter from a correspondent from which comes this clipping. "Last week after dinner I walked over from the Athenaeum Club to the Carlton Restaurant. The door was wide open, and I went in till I was stopped, after I had passed through the hall, by a foreigner, apparently a Count, certainly a person in authority, who asked me why I had come there. I said that I wanted refreshment, but I was told to go away, and I went, because I cannot fight or even run away. Since then I have heard from some young friends who were refreshing at the seaside that they had been ordered out of a hostelry at Sandowne because they were not clad in evening dress."

This awakens the memory to an incident in my own experience; being in London, one night, while Charles Dickens was reading selections from his own stories, naturally enough I wished to hear him; so I secured "Sofa Stall" number 6 "Row Number 11 in St. James's Hall, Regent St. for myself; "Sofa Stall" number 8 for Charles Taylor; and between us was "Sofa Stall" number 7 for Lucy Metcalf; and as requested by the management we presented ourselves ten minutes "before the beginning" in order to be seated. We were refused admittance, notwithstanding we had paid (5) Five shillings

each, without specifications in the matter of costume, and head gear. We were stunned, and the usual bumptious American manner demanded the reason; we were informed that Miss Lucy wore her hat, with "posies" in it, while Charles, and I wore Prince Albert coats. We had no others with us. But there was something besides "posies" in Miss Lucy's hat, and instantly she called for my pocket seissors, removed her hat, clipped some imitation posies, which she slipped into her hair; then quickly pinned up, corner wise, the "frocks" of our Prince Alberts, and we again presented ourselves at the door; the "Keeper" desired the usual shilling for caring for Miss Lucy's dismantled hats which she paid, and we entered in peace to the authors' own interpretation of "Boots at the Holly Tree Inn."

There is a clever paper in the September, *Ladies Home Journal* an Dead Letters, and the Dead Letter office, written by Mrs. Patti Lyle Collins. This lady is the champion guesser as to the destination of a letter which even the

fellow who wrote it did not know, and there is a lot of information also which every man in business ought to know.

There is an idea set forth in the September *Ladies Home Journal*, by one Fanny Lanigan, which if worth dollars to a young woman, with some stenography, and a type-writer. And it is Home work to.

Men have curious fancies concerning the identification of books, or other simular property either lost, lent, or stolen. The late Samuel Currey, a lawyer here wrote his name on the 96th page of each of his books; the late Walter W. Updike, also a lawyer, wrote his name on the 43rd page of his books; the late William S. Patten, bred to the law, but sometime cashier of the Manufacturer's Bank, wrote his name on the 57th page; the late President Caswell used the same method, but the writer has forgotten the page. The most whimsical method however was that of William McKorkell, once upon a time music teacher here; he pricked a pin hole in the center of the first letter o which appeared upon his sheet music,

THIRD NATIONAL BANK,

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INCORPORATED MAY, 1864.

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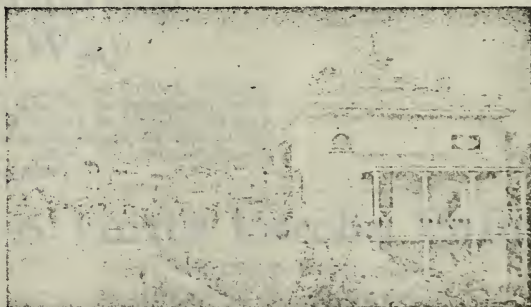
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HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 30, 1899.

VOL. 1.
No. 20

A Century of Banks and Banking in Rhode Island.

SECOND PAPER.

From and including the years 1791—1804 ten Banks were incorporated in Rhode Island. Three in Providence, to wit, the "Providence," the "Exchange," and the "Roger Williams." Three were in Newport, to wit, the "Bank of Rhode Island," the "Newport" and the "Rhode Island Union." One in Westerly, the "Washington." One in Bristol, the "Bank of Bristol." One in Warren, the "Warren" and one in Glocester, the "Farmer's Exchange." The authorized capital was \$3,850,000; the actual capital paid was, according to a report under the law made by the banks to the General Treasurer \$1,233,510. But there is good reason to believe that there were false statements made by certain banks in this statement. The population of Rhode Island was then about 70,000. The population of the six towns in which these banks were located was about 23,800. The authorized bank capital was \$55 00 for each man, woman, and child in the State; the actual paid in capital was \$17 60 *per capita* of the entire population. The Charters of all these banks contained the infamous, and unconstitutional "Bank Process" clause which came first

into Rhode Island in the manner described in the first of these papers. It was a rank violation of chapter 29 of Magna Charta upon which all Rhode Island law was founded and it was also in rank violation of the Warwick Patent, and of the Charter of Charles the Second. The General Assembly had no power, nor right, under the then existing condition to enact such a law. It was done by brazen usurpation; that body had constituted itself the court of final resort. But in iniquity the Assembly went still further; it granted in 1803 a Charter to the "Newport Bank" which is among those above mentioned. These Charters are of singular formation, every one consists of two things, one called a Constitution made by the petitioners to which the Assembly added what we now consider a Charter, and then enacted both into a Charter. Section 4, of this constitution reads that the Rhode Island Insurance Company "shall and may" subscribe for one thousand shares of the stock of this "Newport Bank." Section 6 of the Charter end of the Charter, reads "that every bond, bill, note, or accepted bill of exchange, given to the Rhode Island Insurance Company, and lodged in this Newport Bank for collection may be collected by the Bank Directors in their name, and by the same "process" as

was proscribed in their own affairs; it was the "Bank Process" granted in this hidden way to an Insurance Company, which then had no existence, for it had not been incorporated; but it was incorporated subsequently. This secret manner of legislation, indicates a spirit of antagonism to such legislation on the part of the people, or of those then possessing a right to vote, otherwise there would have been no necessity for secrecy; but it shows also a rascally set of members of the General Assembly who would either perform, or permit such things to pass unchallenged. Simeon Martin, a man of some note at Newport was a member of the House of Representatives and was in both "deals." Paul Mumford, Lieut. Gov. was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court so much denounced for his sneaking action in the Trevett & Weeden case; while his son was a member of the "House." In the House also were James Aldrich, Solomon Owen and Elisha Mathewson, all of whom were in the Farmer's Exchange Banks affairs, the greatest banking swindle ever perpetrated in Rhode Island which I am about to narrate. In 1804 came the Charter of this Farmer's Exchange Bank in Glocester, but located in Chepachet. It was a swindle from the beginning. Daniel and Solomon Owen were in it; Timothy Wilmarth, Elisha Mathewson, James Aldrich, John Harris, John Wilkinson, and others; all these were Directors. Little actual money went into it, mostly stockholders notes; but not a Director paid a dollar for his stock. It was done in this way; on the day of payment of the first instalments, for stock, in specie, the Directors lodged the amounts required for them; but a very few days later took back from the Bank, their *specie*, by payments, in bills of that Bank, giving no security whatever for the sums; such was the beginning; no dividend was ever declared

from the profits of the Bank; but once a year the Directors paid the stockholders eight per cent. interest, on whatever amount of stock had been actually paid for, and divided among themselves, owning no stock, whatever balance remained; this sum amounted in some years to \$130.00 each. In February 1808 the Directors divided among themselves, "all the money and securities for money" held by the Bank; and "each Director had liberty to issue bills of the Bank, amounting to \$500.00 upon certain Bank Bills of other Banks, for one half that amount. In March 1808 Andrew Dexter Jr., of Boston, obtained control of the Bank, without the security of money. His father Andrew Dexter had long before been a Director in the Providence Bank; and his brother Samuel Dexter, who married a daughter of Gov. James Fenner, and who died here in 1862, was a Director, with his brother in this Bank. The bank was run by the Dexters eleven months before it collapsed. It had then in circulation, or outstanding \$580,000. The actual assets were \$86.00. It cannot be without interest to dwell a moment upon methods employed in the enterprize. The form of note introduced by Dexter is, so far as our limited experience goes, unique. It seems a little singular it should have ever been allowed to pass quite out of use. We here present it:

"I, Andrew Dexter, Jr., do promise the President, Directors and Company of the Farmers' Exchange Bank, to pay them or order — dollars in two years from the date, with interest at two per cent. per annum, it being, however, understood that said Dexter shall not be called upon to make payment until he thinks proper, he being the principal stockholder, and best knowing when it will be proper to pay the same."

We have heard of notes payable six

months after convenience, but we never before supposed such things really existed. The further management of the affairs of this bank may not be uninteresting nor without instruction to the old foggy directors of our day, we therefore present a few facts. The plates used in printing the bills were placed in the hands of Dexter, who procured the paper, and caused the bills to be printed. The Cashier, at Dexter's request, signed the bills only in the night. The Directors allowed Dexter to make his own rate of interest, and give such security as he thought proper.

William Colwell, Esq., was the cashier; of this gentleman we know but little; a reference in a letter gives us some insight into his character, and has amused us exceedingly. He seems to have been sick, and his friend writes, "I am sorry to learn of your illness, but know that your natural piety of mind and regular habits will do more towards your recovery than any medical advice." That is very consoling to us. Mr. Colwell was sustained by his "natural piety," while assisting a party to swindle the community to the tune of half a million, and in the "regular habit" of receiving two salaries, one from the bank and another from Mr. Dexter, for connivance at the frauds. Of what use to a gentleman is "natural piety" if he cannot draw upon it under such urgent circumstances.

Some of the instructions given to the Cashier for the government of the bank we think will interest our readers. We will give a few of them:

"The general rule should undoubtedly be to pay punctually, but to this there are important exceptions, such as when we are run upon by brokers, or any persons whatever, merely for the purpose making a profit out of the injury and loss of the bank; these ought to be paid only by drafts on the exchange office (in Boston) at forty days

sight. The Providence banks should be plagued as much as possible, by detaining them as long as it will naturally take to count all kinds of specie change intermixed in the most deliberate manner. The change is very important, and ought to be husbanded as much as possible, never to pay it away except where the intention is to plague and delay the person."

This was one of those cases in which the General Assembly attempted the exercise of judicial power, by punishing for contempt. A *capias* was issued for the arrest of Andrew Dexter, Jr., but he came not within the jurisdiction of the General Assembly, and so was never arrested. Samuel Dexter was subpoenaed, with the other directors, and each held under one thousand dollars bonds to answer to the investigation by the assembly—but nothing ever came from it.

From 1804 to 1818 inclusive the General Assembly granted Charters for twenty-seven (27) Banks. Ten of these Charters were granted in February 1818, just previous to the enactment of the statute prohibiting the further incorporation of the power known as the "Bank Process" into Charters. This shows the truculence of the General Assembly, and it also shows the value which Bank Directors placed upon that terrible statute. The "Merchants," of Providence, the "Eagle," also of Providence; the "Landholders," of Kingston; and the "New England Commercial," of Newport were among those Chartered in 1818, in order to get the powers of the "Bank Process;" the remaining six, then Chartered, have retired from business.

From 1819, to 1828, inclusive, the General Assembly Chartered Thirty-three (33) Banks. Making then in existence 45 Banks in the State with a paid in capital of \$6,050,994. The Directors, and other stockholder owed these

Banks \$1,347,529. The population of the state was then about 97000, which makes a paid in bank capital of \$62.36 for every man woman and child in the state in 1828; it was, twenty-four years before about \$17.60. It is very probable that the very favorable legislation of Rhode Island concerning banks caused outside money to flow within to take the form of bank stock; and this may have brought about the great increase in cotton manufacturing which followed the coming of Samuel Slater in 1791. But in 1829 came the collapse of nearly the entire manufacturing community—so great that the Jails could not “entertain” the victims, but were full to overflowing; but the story of this affair must await the next issue.

The Trustees of the Fiske Fund offered a prize of \$350 for the best Essay on the *Neuron Theory as related to Brain and Nerve Diseases*. The prize was awarded to an Essay bearing the motto *Acti labores jucundi* and the author proved to be Dr. David I. Wolfstein of Cincinnati, Ohio. The Essay has been published as the 43rd, Fiske Fund Prize Dissertation. It is possibly folly for a medically uneducated person to attempt to explain to others equally uneducated what this book is intended to show. Nevertheless we will try. The condition of the prize offer was that the Essay must be “in the light of the most recent investigations,” hence we must first find what the *Neuron* is; then what the former “theory” was, which went under its name; and then how recent investigations have changed this theory. The *Neuron*, is a nerve cell; or it may be the Cerebro spinal axis, the axis being the second vertebra in the neck; or perhaps it means the nerve cells in connection between the brain and the spinal cord. Hitherto the theory has been that diseases of the brain, and nerve system, called “degenerations” were “ascen-

ding or decending,” and under tropic or nutritive nerve influences and “based upon the presence of a continuous nervous net work.” But now all those theories are abandoned and “replaced by the theory of contact, or of induction from one perfectly free and independent nerve element to another equally so, standing in contiguity but not in continuity.” Now all that is Sanscrit to the writer, but mayhap the reader will understand it. This book is beautifully printed; and brimful of the most beautifully executed illustrations. Copies are supplied by Dr. George L. Collins, Secretary of the Trustees, Providence, R. I.

It may interest somebody to have BOOK NOTES suggest Indian names for homes or cottages of those now dwelling upon these Indian land. These following are derived for the language of the Narragansett Tribe. Wetuomock, meaning *at Home*.

Kwiteas, or Kwhiteas, for Askwhiteas, meaning *Keep Watch*. Well suited to a cottage upon a hill top.

Atchewaum, from Ntaquatchawaumen, meaning *I go up hill*.

Waucho, meaning, *a hill*.

Wetu-manetu. *The medicine man's Wigwam*.

Manetu-wekick. *At the home of the Medicine Man*.

Yochi-pachausin. *Here the ways separate*. Indicating a crossing of paths, cross, roads, or “corners.”

Constitution Making in Rhode Island is the title (which explains itself) of a pamphlet of 128 pages, written by Amasa M. Eaton of this city. The theory of the pamphlet, is first, a table of contents, which presents in a paginal way the heads of the Constitutional questions and the relative powers of the people, and of their representatives;

then follows a preface which in few words gives the history of the recent attempts, and of their failures. Then follows the Constitutional League's petition, now pending for a Constitutional Convention; then follows Mr. Eaton's history of constitution making in Rhode Island; and this, in turn is followed by Mr. Eaton's new Draft of a Constitution. The price of the pamphlet is 50 cents, and copies are for sale by Mr. Rider.

The *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for September contains an attractive group of articles. The timeliness of the subjects treated is seen by a glance at the contents. The war in the Philippines is summed up by John Barrett; the outcome of The Hague conference is set forth by W. T. Stead; the subject of trusts is discussed by George E. Roberts and by Henry Macfarland;

Hezekiah Butterworth writes of "The Future Value of the New England Farm," while Prof. L. H. Bailey answers affirmatively the question, "Does Farming Pay?" Sylvester Baxter tells of the progress made by the State of Massachusetts in her public library system

The October *Philistine* is fairly bristling with bright thoughts upon social topics, and in condensed form. It is the most suggestive serial that come to BOOK NOTES.

Like a beautiful, elusive butterfly of her native land is the charming geisha-girl of Japan, the fascinating coquette of the Orient, whose dainty personality and picturesque dances will be fully described by Onoto Watanna, the gifted Japanese writer, in the November *Woman's Home Companion*.

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SATURDAY, OCT. 14, 1899.

VOL. 16.
No. 21.

A Century of Banks and Banking in Rhode Island.

THIRD PAPER.

The singular propensity of men who write to commit errors is cleverly shown by the *Journals of Congress*, in connection with the establishment of the first bank in this country—the Bank of North America. It is there stated (vol. 3, p. 624) that a letter had been sent to Congress “by Mr. R. Morris with a plan for a bank.” The next paragraph reads, “Resolved, That Congress do not approve of the plan for establishing a National Bank in these United States, submitted by Mr. R. Morris,” and thereupon proceeded at once to establish such an institution. Mr. Madison voted against the charter, so also voted the entire Massachusetts delegation; so also voted Thomas Smith from Pennsylvania; the New York members did not vote.

In giving some account of the connection of the Dexters, here, with the Farmer's Exchange Bank swindle, it might have been shown how this connection arose. The fraud was executed by Andrew Dexter, Jr. His father, Andrew Dexter, was an importer of English textile manufactures, living at Boston; he was a brother of Samuel

Dexter, who was secretary of the U. S. Treasury in 1801, and for a short time Secretary of State. Andrew Dexter came to Providence to live in 1785. His shop was on Westminster Street, near the present Arcade. He engaged in manufacturing cloth, with William Almy, and Moses Brown, and it was this connection which placed him upon the Board of Directors of the Providence Bank. It was not Andrew Dexter, himself, who was “in” this swindle, but his sons.

It was suggested in the last paper, that the very favorable legislation towards Banks caused outside money to flow hither, and that this influx of money caused the great development of the Cotton Manufacture; nevertheless there are two ways of looking at it—did the Banks bring the Mills, or did the Mills bring the Banks—but one thing is clear, those who controlled the Banks, controlled the legislation by the General Assembly. The contract of the Browns with Slater, was made “the fifth day, of the fourth month” 1790—the first Bank came in 1791. From this time, until 1829, there had been a continuous building of Cotton Mills, upon every stream in Rhode Island. These mills were small, and built wherever water power existed; their ruins are

still to be seen all over the state. In 1829 came the terrible crash; the Valley of the Blackstone was a mass of financial ruin, and so too it was with the entire state of Rhode Island so far as manufacturers, or those closely connected with them, were concerned. The writer, some years since, wrote an account of these matters, for which the late Mr. Robert H. Ives paid him the highest compliment, for its correctness, so far as he positively knew of the affair. From this account the writer will draw some details. The business was entirely new; few men knew anything concerning its technical details, nevertheless a great number of men built mills and ruined themselves in undertaking to run them. Rhode Island herself offered but a very small market, her entire population being less than a hundred thousand persons. There was no method of outside business; besides, Massachusetts had her own mills, and other States followed. There was at first, a ready sale, and at a handsome profit, and this, coming to be known led many men into the business. The war with England soon followed, and for three or four years all imports of cloth was stopped, which very much helped the Cotton Mills. It seems strange under such conditions that Rhode Island was so bitterly opposed as she was to this war. But the fact was that there were then two kinds of prominent business—the *Commercial* and the *Manufacturing*, the war stopped the first, but helped the last, while the Commercial men held the political "pull." Peace came in 1815, and with Peace came the decline in prices for Cotton cloth. Few men at first took notice of this significant indication, while not a single individual saw it wisely; but all went blindly along. As I have shown, ten Banks were incorporated in 1818. In the place of ceasing to build new mills, men, sought to increase the price of their

product, to their own people, by a "protective" tariff. The Rhode Island manufacturers petitioned Congress, in 1819, to *prohibit* the importation of all Eastern cottons, under any tariff whatever—four tariffs were then made to force people who use clothes, to pay big profits to the few, (but altogether too many) who made them; it was all, to no good purpose; cloth still declined; in spite of all the tariffs, people could buy a yard of cotton cloth, in 1829, for one third the price charged in 1815, and of much better quality. Failures among the smaller concerns began early in 1829, but soon after the beginning of June seven assignments of cotton men were announced; on the 17th day of that month came the failure of the firm of Abraham and Isaac Wilkinson. The "home" of this concern was at Pawtucket, but the concern was expanded far beyond the borders of Rhode Island; and it was "in" all kinds of enterprises, it was a precise parallel to the Sprague failure here in 1873. Abraham and Isaac, were twin brothers; their sister Hannah, married Samuel Slater, and all three, were children of Oziel Wilkinson, who, with his son Abraham, witnessed the first contract with Slater, and were closely connected with Moses Brown, in the business of cotton manufacturing; these details will illustrate what will presently follow. The Wilkinsons owned the Albion Company; the Valley Falls Company; the Fox Point Company; the Pomfret Manufacturing Company; the Abbott Run Company; the Yellow Mill Estate; the Sargents Trench concerning which so much litigation followed; the Central Falls Mill privilege; and any number of Farms, Houses, Taverns, Furnaces, Dams, Waterways, etc., etc., everywhere. The failure followed and everything went under the hammer. Samuel Slater was caught in this terrible crash; he was considered worth at

the time a round million of dollars; but he was brought instantly face to face with \$300,000 of endorsements, while his mill property was useless as an asset. But his business connection with the Browns saved him and possibly themselves from wreck. A syndicate was at last formed to carry Mr. Slater; It consisted of Cyrus Butler, Moses Brown, and Brown & Ives—Mr. Slater was saved, and with him was saved, the Manufacturers Bank, which was then at Pawtucket, but is now one of the most carefully managed, and successful institutions, in Providence, there was then at Pawtucket another bank, the Farmer's and Mechanics. This Bank was controlled by Abraham and Isaac Wilkinson; it suspended payment, at once, upon the announcement of the failure of that firm. The General Assembly ordered an investigation—the committee of investigation consisted by Lemuel H. Arnold, subsequently Governor, and Albert C. Greene, subsequently U. S. Senator; in thirty hours these men went from Newport to Pawtucket, made the investigation returned, and made this report.

DR.

Capital.....	\$200,000
Notes and drafts.....	96,906
Circulation.....	21,412
Surplus or dividend.....	4,754
Deposits.....	14,303

\$337,366

CR.

Bills receivable.....	\$331,418
Deposits in other banks.....	5,463
Interest.....	433
Specie.....	50

\$337,366

The directors of the bank owned stock amounting to \$73,500; and the board owed the bank \$285,346; of this amount Abraham and Isaac Wilkinson owed \$151,665. The last bank return

before the failure, which was but a very few months, showed the indebtedness of the directors as being only \$43,191, a good illustration of the treachery of these returns. It was six years, or in 1835, that the affairs of the bank were "wound up;" every bank bill was redeemed, and every debt was paid, but the stockholders lost everything. The charter, which was granted in 1823, without the "Bank Process" clause, was sold to new men, for convenience of settlement the bank was moved to Providence, the name was changed to the "Phenix," and from its own ashes arose one of the soundest and best banks in Rhode Island.

So it came to pass that in 1829 there were mills and banks without number, but only five jails, and since imprisonment for debt, like branding with hot irons and cutting off ears was then the law of Rhode Island, these jails were full to overflowing with poor men who had lost everything save honor; there were 210 petitions from manufacturers in April, 1830, to take the poor debtor's oath—a page and a half of the weekly *Journal* was filled with their petitions. The *Journal* had been a steady advocate for the repeal of the law of imprisonment for debt. On one day the Court released from prison 149 of these men; the *Journal* announced the fact saying: "Thus the Court has set at liberty to work and earn support for themselves and their families one hundred and forty-nine citizens who were manacled (just as the writer himself has been) and bound by debts which they could not pay."

The Sunday *Journal* has an elaborate paper written by Miss Virginia Baker of Warren, a painstaking and industrious worker in ancient and almost forgotten lore, descriptive of a book, to which eighty years have prefixed the

adjective "curious," entitled a *Gazetteer of Connecticut and Rhode Island*; but the most interesting thing in the book Miss Baker has omitted; she speaks of maps, and a *portrait* of Walcott, Governor of Connecticut; but says nothing of the fine portrait of Nehemiah R. Knight who was Governor of Rhode Island from 1817-1821, and U. S. Senator for more than twenty years 1821-1841. This engraved portrait is from a painting by Thomas Young, one of the most distinguished portrait painters of his time in this country. The interest which this book has for those who conduct newspapers is the most interesting thing about it. The *Pawtuxet Valley Gleaner* published the entire matter concerning Rhode Island which the book contains, in its columns in 1887, and now comes the *Journal*.

The Sunday *Journal* copies from the Washington *Star* unfavorable criticisms which have been made concerning the fronting towards the south of the group known as Quadriga which crowns the Dewey Arch at New York, such mistakes in facing statues in the wrong directions are rarely made by artists, but more often by the directive authorities. The *Star* continues "a case in point is the statue of Penn surmounting the City Hall in Philadelphia which faces the wrong way." The most extraordinary blunder of this kind here in Providence was the placing of the statue by Bartholdi, of Columbus, with a face, full of animation looking directly *North*, and his arm and hand extended directly *East*, Columbus seems to say, There!! see the new continent. The position is positively absurd; Columbus would not have pointed east for the Western Continent.

Mr. R. G. Hazard in his address at the Washington County Fair, said the other day: "You ask why it is that the

other great nations look with such deep distrust upon the *resplendent bubble* of our present prosperity." This deep distrust is shown by gold shipments to this country, but the "resplendent bubble" is really clever.

Again Mr. Hazard said, "Shall the United States change her *inherited* standard to suit the interested few?" Since gold and silver were from the foundation of this country or government down to 1873 the standard and are to-day so far as the U. S. constitution declares upon the subject, BOOK NOTES asks Mr. R. Hazard to make another address and inform us just when this *inherited* standard came to us.

Once more, Mr. Hazard, please tell us who are the "interested few." Were they the 6,500,000 men who voted for Bryan?

The nonsensical absurdity of Mr. Hazard's statement about a gold standard for India is positively laughable, but concerning this BOOK NOTES will "see you later."

Forced by infamous laws enacted by Congress, the farmer has been driven from the land of New England; let me ask the poor fellow, who voted for the laws which strangled him—he himself did it—now, what advantage was it—only ruin.

Outside of Franklin's Autobiography, the most interesting writings concerning Franklin are these now being printed in the *Century* written by Mr. Paul L. Ford.

This paragraph comes from the New York *Times* financial correspondent in London 11, Sept. 1899.

"News has just come from India that the Government there has in solemn Durbar ordered that fifteen silver rupees be henceforth given in exchange for the sovereign to the end of time or of British dominion. The true exchange value is about twenty-four rupees for a sovereign,

and the device is a laughable one. Yet the Government is confident that all the world will now begin to pour gold into India, in a fever to make the losing bargain. The Government is willing to take your or any one's gold on its own terms, but cannot promise to give it back again on the same terms, as it could never do so but by borrowing the yellow metal."

The *October American Review of Reviews* has an admirable chronological statement of the Dreyfus case, by Mr. Stead, filled with most acute, and trenchant paragraphs. But for downright eloquence BOOK NOTES commends to you a leader in the *Nation*, just following, the last absurd finding of the Court Martial.

The *Newport Herald* of 25th August last has a carefully prepared paper and elaborate withal, entitled *Fact and Fancy About the Old Stone Mill*. In the course of the article it is stated that Mr. R. G. Hatfield, once an architect, declared in 1879 in favor of the Northmen as being the builders, and the con-

tinues the *Herald*, "a similar view was entertained forty years earlier (in 1839) by Prof. Rafn, of the Society of Northern Antiquaries at Copenhagen." The only thing lacking in this paper is the exposure of the person who perpetuated the fraud which misled Prof. Rafn. This BOOK NOTES will do some day, for it knows who did it and how, and when, it was done.

The second instaiment of the Dairy of Enos Hitchcock appears in the October publications of the Historical Society very carefully edited and annotated by Mr. W. B. Weedon. The Reverend gentlemen was a chaplain in the Army of the Revolution. This Dairy so far as now for the first time printed covers the years 1777-1779.

The overtaxation of our homes was again made manifest by the sale of the Fidler estate on Broadway in July, '99; it was taxed for \$8120; it was sold at private sale—not under the hammer—by the owner for \$5000. Now consider one moment the system of taxation of the business portions of the city.

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No. 22.

A Century of Banks and Banking in Rhode Island.

FOURTH PAPER.

It cannot be without interest, and it may not be without profit, were I to devote this paper to a more careful consideration of the relations which existed between the men who controlled the banks and the men who made the laws. No legislation by the Rhode Island General Assembly has excited more indignant comment among judicial writers, nor among those who style themselves "financial" men, than did the "bank" laws of 1786. But these criticisms are only partly just. It was the enacting of ignorant and wicked laws for the preceding seventy years which made necessary the crowning wickedness of 1786. It was just as true regarding the elective franchise, and the exercise of judicial powers by the General Assembly; it was these wicked acts which were the direct causes of the "Dorr War." Strangely enough, these bank papers touch, indirectly, upon this political revolution. There is no chapter in Rhode Island legislation more silly, more corrupt, nor more generally wicked than that concerning banks. From the first chapter, that of the Providence Bank in 1791, those engaged in promoting such enterprises took a hand

in the election and manipulation of the General Assembly; the assembly ticket was always the objective point; only those familiar with the "constitution" of Rhode Island, under the charter of Charles the Second (and until 1843 there was no other constitution) will understand the situation. The General Assembly made the voters; governors, courts, judges, laws, and at last made itself the court of last resort; it made laws and decrees. The strong position as lenders of money, even if it was somebody's money other than their own, which bank directors held, became a powerful engine in controlling the making of laws; and so for nearly forty years these bank men had things very nearly as they wished them to be; great changes followed the tremendous failures of 1829, to which events reference was made in the third paper of this history. It is not the present purpose of the writer to enter upon these changes, but rather to give what the writer considers amusing specimens of law making by the General Assembly from 1791 to 1831; but in using the word "amusing" he does not wish to disguise the corrupt and even dangerous character of these laws.

In giving the powers of the "Bank Process" to the banks, the action of the General Assembly was extraordinary.

The powers of the banks against debtors was drastic, while a debtor's remedy against a bank was the ordinary procedure of the law. But, not satisfied with such a condition, the banks obtained the enactment of a special statute in their favor. Such an anomaly is inexplicable when it is considered that many members of the General Assembly were large borrowers; thus they bound themselves by granting such powers to their creditors, and at the same time tied their own hands. This entire legislation in relation to banks was positively wicked, oftentimes it was farcical, and sometimes it was actually silly. Just think of eighty-two (82) wise legislators putting upon the statute books such a law as this: "The total amount of the debts which any bank shall at any time owe shall not exceed their (*sic*) capital stock actually paid in." Then the wise men go on "over and above the monies actually deposited in such bank." Did not receiving money on deposit create a debt against the bank? It certainly did. Then wherein lies the sense of the first paragraph? Can the General Assembly draw the line where any bank, or any body, can "get into" debt? It certainly cannot. These banks did another little game; they made bills payable, or redeemable, outside of Rhode Island. This made redemption difficult, and kept their bills either for a very long time or, perhaps, forever from the obligation of payment. The General Assembly by a statute gave the banks this privilege, but for bills of fifty dollars and upwards. These banking gentlemen also obtained the enactment of a statute to the effect that any person in Rhode Island passing a bank bill under the denomination of five dollars, issued by any bank outside the State, was liable to indictment by the Grand Jury, and to be punished. Thus a man from Boston, with only Massachusetts bank

bills, must pay exchange or go to jail; for he could neither pay his hotel bill nor his stage fare back. Such is a fair specimen of the banking laws of Rhode Island almost within the memory of men now living.

The position of a director in a bank was then a "soft snap;" it gave men great power, and such positions were by intrigue obtained and secretly held. This came to be such a dangerous implement that the General Assembly enacted a law declaring that the names of directors should be published in the nearest newspaper within ten days after their elections; but this was of no avail. The outrage went on until the law was changed, making a cashier liable to a fine of \$100 who neglected, or refused, to print the names of men who became directors. Early in the century a tax on banks was levied of fifty cents on each thousand dollars of stock; this tax was increased to \$1.25 in 1826. But just for a moment consider such a law as this: "When any bank shall for the space of five days after demand in writing (something more than a check) was made, neglect or refuse to pay any money deposited in said bank to the person having the legal right to receive the money, such bank shall be liable to pay in *damages* the amount of the money and such additional damage as a jury shall think reasonable. So, to return the money deposited was an assessment *in damages* to any bank.

Let me give you a bit of banking history which followed the increase of the bank tax from 50 cents to \$1.25 on each thousand dollars of stock. In May, 1826, there were five banks in Bristol, which in that month returned to the General Treasurer the amount of their capital stock thus: Freeman's, \$74,965; Commercial, \$150,000; Bristol, \$150,000; Union, \$40,000; Eagle, \$100,000. In the same month with these returns the bank tax was increased as above stated. The

very next month, in June, these banks went to the General Assembly and represented that their capital stock had been "impaired" by money "lost by recent failures" so that their capital stood as follows: Freeman's, \$34,829; Commercial, \$138,263; Bristol, \$60,000; Union, \$18,950; Eagle, \$73,202. With a total capital of \$514,965 here was a shrinkage of \$188,791 or nearly 37 per cent. Had the capital been not paid in it could not have been liable for the tax, and hence no relief was necessary. But, strange to relate, the very next return, that for May, 1827, shows, with the exception of the "Bristol," the same returns as were made before the increase of the bank tax. The amount of the tax on this shrinkage of \$188,791 was \$237. Is it to be supposed that these Bristol directors, in order to save such a small sum as \$237, would peril their very existence by making such a statement as that in one short month they had lost 37 per cent. of their capital by making bad loans? And yet what other hypothesis is open to us?

There has been for many years a fragment of a manuscript Diary kept by the Rev. James Macsparran in the possession of the Historical Society. Some years since, the writer copied a portion of the Diary with a view of publication as a Historical Tract. At the request of the present President of the Society the project was surrendered to another. It is now to be published by Mr. D. B. Updike under the singular title, "A Letter Book and Abstract of Out Services," written during the years 1743-1751. Dr. Macsparran's services in the Narragansett country began in 1721 and ended in 1757. Thus can be seen the extent of the fragment; and since he was first, last and all the time a missionary there it is not easy to define his "Out Services." The Rev. Daniel Goodwin, of East Greenwich, has en-

riched the fragment with notes resulting from very extended studies. The writer has not yet examined these notes, but from the well known thoroughness of the annotator much is to be expected from them. In his prospectus Mr. D. B. Updike, the publisher, prints the name of the diarist thus, MACSPARRAN, but the diarist himself, writing his own name in a letter written in 1752, wrote it "Macsparran" (*America Dissected*), first edition, 1753, p. 46. So also the name was written in Macsparran's diploma from the University of Glasgow conferring the degree of "Master of Arts" in 1709; and so too it was written in the diploma from Oxford University conferring the degree of "Doctor of Sacred Theology" in 1731. Why not stand to these forms instead of making whimsical changes. For proof see "*America Dissected*," 1753, pp. 47-48. The book is to be published by subscription at three dollars per copy, the edition strictly limited to 350 copies. The book is to be published November the eleventh, next, and on that day Mr. Updike will raise the price to four dollars. Mr. Updike's address is 104 Chestnut street, Boston, Mass.

Since writing the first of these banking papers, in which some mention was made of the charter by the Continental Congress of the Bank of North America; and of the repealing of the charter by the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, an extraordinary incident has taken place. There comes to the hand of the writer an exceedingly rare pamphlet which was issued at the time of the repeal, 1786, which gives the debates and proceedings of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania on the memorials praying a repeal or suspension of the law annulling the charter of the bank. It was prepared by Mathew Carey as editor, and by him printed; it was dedicated to Benjamin Franklin. It is of excessive

rarity and of the profoundest interest, and before leaving the subject BOOK NOTES will summarize the arguments used by those men then interested both for and against the bank.

The price of pork to the laborer here in Providence has within two months been raised from 20 to 50 per cent. Some kinds went from 8 cents to 12 cents per pound. The price of the cheaper grades of fresh beef, and also of corned beef, has been increased 20 per cent. here. White beans have been raised from 5 cents to 7 cents per quart, equal to 40 per cent. Kerosene oil of all grades has been raised 20 per cent. to all who burn it. Leather of all kinds, and all shoe findings, have been raised by the Leather Trust more than 25 per cent. Such are a few of the illustrations which go to illustrate Mr. R. G. Hazard's "resplendent bubble of our present prosperity," as described in his Kingston address. This squeezing of poor men was the result of no scarcity in food, nor in shoes; it was neither more nor less than the schemes of rich men, manipulating those bodies of men who make our laws. There is but one thing which will put an end to such schemes.

The Providence *Journal*, being itself a Trust, is the natural defender of all Trusts. Just so, it was the creature of the "American System," as protective tariffs were called, when it was started—and thus to this day it has been a defender of such systems of robbery as that recently illustrated by BOOK NOTES in the case of sewing machines.

Lord Northbrook, former Governor-General of India, testified before the late Parliamentary Commission concerning Indian money. He said the whole scheme (the knocking out of silver as money there) must be abortive;

but if successful, or successful so far as gold could be forced on the people, it would cause them dissatisfaction and, perhaps, disaffection, and to all gold-using countries, particularly England, a strain on their gold reserves and checking to a return of cheerfulness to trade, such as the period of constant fall in prices has lately brought." It is less than eight months since this testimony was given, yet the conditions are here, and England is buying gold from this country. That which Lord Northbrook said could not be done, Mr. R. G. Hazard, of Kingston, R. I., flippantly informs us has been done. It is pure nonsense.

Judge Stiness has written an excellent letter printed in the *Journal* Sunday, October 22, upon the matter of a statue on the dome of the new State House, Judge Stiness, as do all our educated men, stands for the statue of Roger Williams. He closes his admirable letter with this fine sentence, as true as it terse: "Better an ideal statue of such a man than the figure of a man which stands for no ideal." BOOK NOTES long ago urged that a statue representing Roger Williams should be placed upon the dome—"a colossal ideal statue" were the words we wrote.

The *Saturday Evening Post* for the 14th of October has an admirable paper on the "Choice of a Profession," and the "Attractions of Teaching," written by E. Benjamin Andrews, late President of Brown University. The College Man's Number of the *Saturday Evening Post* though planned primarily to appeal to university men, past and present, will interest all who care for the short story at its best. "Robert W. Chambers, in *The Spirit of the North*, tells us of the adventures of a party of Columbia naturalists and their quest of the dingee—hitherto

supposed to be extinct—in the unknown country behind the Hudson Mountains." This story is a rather remarkable combination of exciting action and inimitable humor. What the 'dingue' is BOOK NOTES does not know, unless it be the Australian wild dog, "dingo," of which very ancient bones have been found.

We have a new volume of Rhode Island verse; written by Jeffrey W. Potter, of Perryville, R. I., entitled, 'Poems of New England and Our Country;' a handsomely printed 12 mo. volume of 232 pages. A spirit of patriotism pervades the volumes, which is exhibited in verses touching men who have been made famous by the exercise of that virtue. For instance, John Brown, and Abraham Lincoln, and Lafayette, and Franklin, and Grant, and Washington. So, too, is it filled with Rhode Island themes and men. For men there are Roger Williams and his Indian Friends, and in these later years Judge Elisha R. Potter, and the late

Rowland G. Hazard. Both very remarkable men. Concerning Judge Potter comes these lines from the closing stanza :

A hundred stories from the heart
Might some within the State impart
Where Mercy's hand was seen.

Never was there a truer word written; for in some of these acts I was myself the actor. This book is an earnest, honest effort, and while it will not fulfil the highest forms of poetical expression, it will not fail in the spirit. For copies address the author as above written. Price, post paid, \$1.25.

As young men, Lucian Sharpe and the writer were the strongest personal friends. He died at sea since the last issue of BOOK NOTES; his entire life was spent in the verification of Lord Chesterfield's maxim: "Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well." His masterly executive skill resulted in the evolution of a mechanical works which is comparable only to the works of a superb watch. Let my early friend rest in peace.

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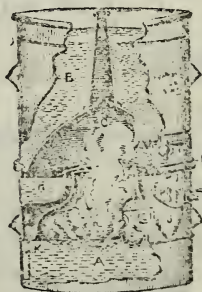
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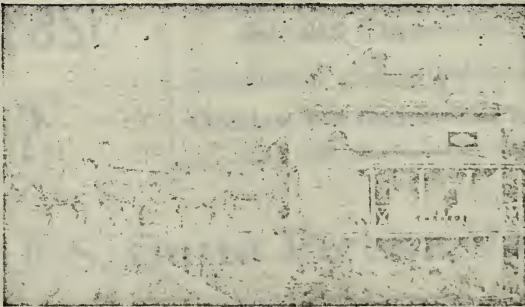
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VOL. 1.
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A Century of Banks and Banking in Rhode Island.

FIFTH PAPER.

In 1820 Rhode Island had 30 banks, with a single exception the greatest number in any state. New York had 10, Connecticut 2, New Jersey 1, Vermont 1, New Hampshire 10, Maine 15, Massachusetts 28, Pennsylvania with 35 alone exceeded her. With no regard to actual need and conditions this State increased her banks from 1820 to 1826 to 44, with a capital of \$10,350,000, but of which not more than one-half had been actually paid in. Then comes this astonishing fact, at the June Session of the General Assembly applications were made for 15 new charters. Such an extraordinary situation led to the appointment of a committee to inquire into the expediency of increasing the banking capital, or rather, the number of banks without capital, within the State.

The proposition for a committee came from Benjamin Hazard, then a member of the House, from Newport, a very able man, who, from 1809 to 1841, when he died, had been a member of the house without intermission. There was then two elections for members each year; Mr. Hazard was elected 62 times. Of the committee above men-

tioned Mr. Hazard was the chairman, and for it a report was written by Mr. Hazard and presented near the close of the session. The House ordered the report printed, but only one hundred copies, and so it has become one of the scarcest among Rhode Island documents. It is in fact almost unknown, and yet it is one of the bravest, keenest, brightest of our monographs. It destroyed the chances of the fifteen new applications for banks for a time. But in the six years, 1827-1833, fourteen of these applications obtained charters. It was this passion for State banks which caused the destruction of the first bank in this country, the Bank of North America, which was actually a National Bank chartered by Congress. This bank was destroyed, so that State banks could be established, and from its ruins arose the State bank system. Mr. Hazard points out with clear and trenchant paragraphs how those who were instrumental in establishing the earliest banks here were actually capitalists, with money of their own, while those who came in later were men with no money, but with an insatiable desire to get money. Then, too, he goes into the matter of directorships in unmistakable language somewhat after this manner: "The post of a director was at first considered to

be a respectable as well as a responsible one, and none but men deserving of the highest confidence were thought of for these positions; we may say that this is no longer the case."

When he enters upon the question of fitness in a multitude of Bank managers, and how much mischief can be wrought by a "few unworthy directors," and he points how down to that time the failures among banks "in every single instance" was by the "intrigue if not fraudulent management of some director or president." Then, continues Mr. Hazard, "there can be little safety in multiplying such important grants to persons whose fitness to be entrusted with them the General Assembly can seldom have any knowledge. This was the language of a man of courage, with absolute historical truth behind him. But in almost the same breath he impeaches the action of the General Assembly in matters of money with terrible effect. He says "our *emission* of '86 after being declared a legal tender in all payments at par with gold and silver was *scaled* by the same government at fifteen for one (15 for 1)." Mr. Hazard said or might have said that these two acts were only three years apart, and that

it was only in the payment of taxes that this money could be used; and even then with a small portion, perhaps one-fifth, of a person's tax. Such was the terrible indictment of the action of the General Assembly by Mr. Hazard; had he used the club of Hercules he could not have been more effective. This demand for fifteen new banks in 1826 came chiefly from the men of a single town, Providence: Mr. Hazard says that this town "contains nine banks, eight of them granted by the State. Then he points out how, to some extent, the "country" banks were used in connection with their own institutions, and "to a still greater extent by banks out of the State." This he shows is no proof of a deficiency in the number of banks, nor in the amount of banking capital—it "indicated a deficiency of *real business capital*." We will close this paper with a comparison of banks, in numbers, with certain States, contiguous, together with certain physical conditions closely allied which existed in these States.

For these details I am indebted partly to Mr. Hazard and partly to Albert Gallatin, whose "Essay on Currency and the Banking System" was published in 1831:

Rhode Island,	44	Banks,	Capital,	\$10,350,000
Connecticut,	8	"	"	5,200,000
Maine,	16	"	"	2,055,000
New York,	43	"	"	25,040,350
Pennsylvania,	20	"	"	8,212,774
Massachusetts, (outside of Boston),			"	4,200,000
Massachusetts (with Boston),			"	13,787,500

Thus is made apparent the great excess of banks and banking capital, or what was called banking capital in Rhode Island as compared with other States adjoining. But when considered in connection with physical and material conditions, Massachusetts at that time, 1820, employed 5 times as many

men in agriculture, 6 times as many in manufacture, 12 times as many in commerce; in 1820 her imports were 6 times as much as were Rhode Island's, and she exported 15 times Rhode Island's amount; her population was 6 times that of Rhode Island, and while Rhode Island had 31 towns she had 300.

with many seaports. New York in point of size was 46 times greater than Rhode Island, with a population 20 times greater, while her bank capital was but two and one-half times greater. Connecticut was five times greater than Rhode Island, containing three times the population, and yet with eight banks, as against our forty-four. So it was with every State with which Rhode Island was compared—and yet men here asked for fifteen new banks. The table above is made as nearly accurate as means within the reach of the writer made possible. In some cases there were no returns for 1825, so that an average between 1820 and 1830 was taken. It is clearly apparent that business conditions were assuming a form which culminated with the collapse of manufacturers in 1829, and which only eight years later, in 1837, covered the entire United States.

A physician who can positively cure disease does not need the assistance of the General Assembly in devising laws to gain practice; while a man who cannot positively cure disease ought not to have the advantage of such statutes. The effect of the tinkering of laws by our Board of Health is shown in the absurd law which now disgraces the General Statutes.

Mr. William Perrine has a paper in the *Ladies Home Journal* in which is a charming picture of a womanly woman—Martha Washington. "Mrs. Washington at this time was a healthy, pleasant and unostentatious little woman, still showing traces of good looks and with seldom any other thought than of playing respectably her role of mistress of the house of a country gentleman, of caring for the negroes, or of amusing herself with her knitting. She had great pride in her receipt for making 'cherry bounce'; on a mid-

summer day she cut out thirty-two pairs of breeches for the men working on the farm. She had said that she and the General felt like children just released from school when he left the Presidency, and she told of her satisfaction in settling down again to the 'duties of an old-fashioned Virginia household steady as a clock, busy as a bee, and cheerful as a cricket.'"

Mr. Sauerbeck in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society* for June, speaks with almost prophetic voice of the effect of destroying of silver upon the prices of commodities. The most vital of these causes he says were: "Alterations in Currencies. Demonetization of silver—Insufficient supply of Gold." He continues, "Half the money of the world is still silver and we cannot do without it, it should not be boycotted; again, a serious curtailment of silver, used as money, will depress its price, and have a disastrous effect on trade." Again "prices of commodities for the next decade may still keep low, if gold remains the sole measure of values, and the production of commodities increase." These words were written six years ago—just remark how true they were.

"Sir Robert Giffen condemns in the strongest terms any form of gold standard for India as unsuitable and dangerous, and would re-open the mints to silver without delay."

This gentleman was Chancellor of Exchequer of England, a dozen years ago, and stands among the best financial minds of modern times in that country.

Over-education in the Public Schools or an attempt at it, destroys all thoroughness in elementary education which elementary education is the foundation of all real knowledge. A

recent writer uses these words: "Children should be given the rudiments of an education by the State and then left to their own devices. There is no more vicious and demoralizing ingredient in our social situation than the over-education of the young; a large majority are harmed, and not benefitted under the system. Isaac Newton, Mendoza, Shakespeare, Francis Bacon, Ben Jonson, Chaucer, Racine, Rousseau, and Oliver Goldsmith were not lifted to fame at the public expense; the sacred fire was in them, and they grew up on it." That was written by a man now of Chicago who was a slave in Louisiana in 1863.

The excellent service which Stephen O. Edwards has done in the school committee in the matter of the Evening Schools deserves the highest commendation of all men of discernment; but the correction of this great abuse is but just begun. Lay the axe at the root of the evil. No greater sham exists than these schools, the most costly and the least productive of good. A corps of teachers in one school was kept up when but one single pupil attended. It is time that the Providence School Committee was set aside.

The action of the New York City Board of Education towards the publishing house of Henry Holt & Co. is one of the best illustrations of the uses to which these boards are put. Holt published a magazine, the editor of which criticised the school methods; thereupon the Board had "To-Hell-with-Reform" Gardiner get the Grand Jury to indict Holt, but the Court quashed the indictment. Thereupon the Board of Education threw out of the schools every book which Holt published. Just this same thing, but less pronounced, has long been done

here in Providence. One of our best teachers lost a situation last June where excellent satisfaction had been given for fourteen years. She wrote a letter to the Boston *Herald*, which the *Herald* never published, but sent it here to be shown to the School Committee. The writer lost her place.

The November *Century*, whether as a work of art, or as a work of literature, is unique. As a monthly magazine, nothing finer has ever been produced. The opening chapter of the Life of Cromwell, by John Morley has the leading place. This paper alone would give the highest literary character to any magazine. The paper by Dr. Kobbé on the New York stage mechanism for the Wagner operas has great interest, especially where these presentations are compared with those given at Baireuth. There is an unplished poem by Lowell, and a bewildering wealth of other good things.

A bookseller here in Providence in a letter published in the *Journal* takes the public into his confidence by showing a scheme of combination among booksellers for increasing their profits as against the community. The *Journal* commends it as indeed it commends all "Trusts." But the scheme is positively childish. Not a bookseller could be found here who could be trusted to stand to his agreement. Personally the writer has been through with many of these schemes, and within twenty-four hours after an agreement, seen the written evidences of breeches of faith.

The chief editorial topic in the *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for November is the war in South Africa. In "The Progress of the World" the editor gives a full exposition of the British and Boer sides of the quarrel, re-

spectively. The subject is also treated in the department of "Current History in Caricature," and Mr. Stead contributes a character sketch of "the man of the month" in South Africa—Cecil Rhodes.

Mr. Frederick W. Holls, who did so much at The Hague to give credit and effect to the work of the American delegation at the Peace Conference last summer, contributes to the *American Monthly Review of Reviews* for November a carefully prepared paper on "The Results of the Peace Conference in Their Relation to the Monroe Doctrine." Mr. Holls clearly shows that the declaration of the American Commissioners on July 25 was the most emphatic expression of the Monroe Doc-

trine ever made before the representatives of the great powers. He also shows the groundlessness of the fears expressed in certain quarters as to the danger to American interests likely to result from our participation in the Conference.

The *Saturday Evening Post* of the 28th of October was styled the "college man's number." Among the college-bred men who were the writers of the papers presented were Thomas M. Higginson, Hamlin Garland, Robert W. Chambers, Hayden Carruth, General L. Williams, and others. The number is a superb specimen, whether viewed from a literary or artistic standpoint. The revival of this Journal and its recent management has been most successful.

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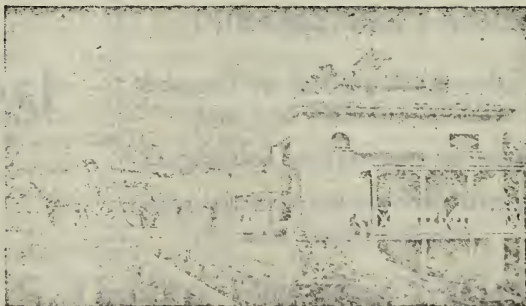
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The Rev. Dr. MacSparran's Letter Book and Abstract of Out-Services.

When, in 1817, the History of the Church in Narragansett by Mr. Wilkins Urdike was published it was not known that a diary written by the Reverend Doctor James Macsparran existed; else had that book been very different in certain ways than as it now appears—nevertheless so it was—a diary did exist, and was at that time lying in the attic of Alexis Caswell's house, on Waterman street, here in Providence. This diary has now first been printed by O. Berkeley Urdike, at the Merrymont Press, in Boston. It is printed under the name, "A Letter Book and Abstract of Out Services, written during the years 1743-1751, by the Rev'd James MacSparran, Doctor of Divinity, etc." This title is whimsical, as BOOK NOTES has before stated, and is essentially erroneous. The diary does not cover the years 1743-1751, for these reasons: It begins on the 29th of May, 1743, and runs to October 27th of that year; then begins on the 10th of March, next following, to wit, 1743-4, and runs to 27th of October, 1745; then occurs a break until July, 1751, and thence is continued until the 26th of December of the same year. It thus covers only two and a half years,

between the years 1743-1751. But, nevertheless, it is a book covering matters here in Rhode Island which are not covered by any other book, and of lively interest. It is a genuine picture of social life here in the very middle of the last century among the best people then living; and hence it has, and will always have, a genuine interest and value. Like all antiquated things of the kind, there are a great many men or things mentioned in the diary unknown to those of the present time, and it is these things which the annotator, the Rev. Daniel Goodwin, has explained in hundreds (actually 409) of notes.

Few persons, unless familiar with such work, can have the slightest idea of the labor which these 409 notes involve. If some of these seem simple, you forget the density of the ignorance of men. But, let me give you an illustration of labor in research. Under the date of the 4th of August, 1751, of the diary (page 47) occurs the entry: "I read prayers & preached from Heb v 4 agst unordained Teachers *precipus* Lay Readers in our chh." Now, turn to note 312, and see the light which a learned scholar can throw upon the entry. Dr. Macsparran's sermon led to attacks upon him by three writers, to wit: John Apliu, Samuel Beaven and William Richardson. It was literally

a war of pamphlets, as Dr. Goodwin says. The first and last were lawyers; but Dr. Macsparran took no further part in the affair. All these pamphlets are in the collection formed by the writer of this paper. Dr. Macsparran's sermon was a copy presented by himself to Mary Updike. On it is written by the Reverend Doctor, "For Miss Mary Updike Jun'r." Many of Dr. Goodwin's notes are biographical, others possess genealogical interest, while others possess acute antiquarian interest. It was, indeed, from these researches by Dr. Goodwin that the subsidiary title, "Out Services," came; and this was the way of it: In speaking of his missionary services in his "*America Dissected*" Dr. Macsparran says (page 30): "By my excursions and Out-Labours a church is built 25 miles to the westward of me." Aside from being one of the most beautifully printed books connected with Rhode Island history, this book is one of the most interesting. It has portraits of both Doctor and Mrs. Macsparran from the Smibert paintings, and so, too, had Mr. Updike's History of the Church. But in Mr. Updike's history the portraits were engraved by Mr. Gimbrédé, then (1847) perhaps an engraver upon copper or steel as good as any in this country. It is a most interesting study in art to note the difference in these two sets of portraits in these two books. Three excellent indexes—of things, of persons, of places, bring this excellent book to a close. The edition it limited to 350 copies. Address D. B. Updike, 104 Chestnut street, Boston.

Journal of William Jefferay, Gentleman.

Such is the title of a book just issued here in Providence, purporting to be edited by John Osborne Austin, our most

excellent genealogist. This "Journal" is a very curious, but most excellent literary production, and quite new in the order of its construction. For this reason BOOK NOTES will give careful consideration to the construction of this note, to the end that its readers may clearly comprehend the purpose of Mr. Austin the "Editor" of the "Journal" in this work of his own. William Jefferay was a veritable citizen of colonial Rhode Island. He really married Mary Gould, a daughter of Jeremiah Gould who then (1640) dwell on "Boston Neck" or Namcook as the Indians called the locality. Mr. Jefferay and his wife removed to Newport where they lived and there died. This "Journal" therefore is not Mr. Jefferay's own construction, but rather one which might have been had Mr. Jefferay, and not Mr. Austin first thought of writing it. Mr. Jefferay begins his "Journal" with the accident of his birth 1591. It will be remembered that Tristram Shandy, began his story with precisely the same incident. The "Journal" is divided into three periods the first 1591 to 1623; the second 1623 to 1650; the third 1650 to 1675. The reasons for this division are these. The first covers the time from Jefferay's birth until he came into New England; the second the time covered by Jefferay's residence in the Massachusetts Bay Colony; the third his advent here in Rhode Island as a resident; his action, or services as a citizen are necessarily meagre, resulting not from carelessness, but from a lack of original sources upon which to draw. From 1650 these sources became more numerous, and hence from that time the "Journal" becomes much fuller, and more interesting. It is an attempt to make a word picture of Rhode Island Colonial life, among the best families, in the earliest days of the colony. It tells us of the houses of the people, and of the furni-

ture, and materials even, which the people had in their houses. It describes in a very concise way the social life here, and the growth of which we must call civilization in this then wilderness. Under the guise of "excursions" the rocks, the trees, and the birds are mentioned so far as these earliest settlers knew them; in fact the "Journal" has been so constructed as to admit of mention of every animal, on every thing which these pioneers found here, or brought with them. This method is very adroit, because it gives "Mr. Jefferay" the opportunity of *not* mentioning the *old* stone mill at Newport—which was where Mr. Jefferay lived, and wrote this "Journal," that is provided, he did indeed write it. Had he (the writer of the "Journal") believed the old stone mill to be of norsemen origin would he not have mentioned such a thing. But in case his friend, and companion Gov. Benedict Arnold was actually building the mill while Jefferay was writing the "Journal," the latter, might not have thought of the norsemen theory of the building thereof.

There is much about family connections; of courtships, marriages and the like; but the meeting of William Jefferay with Mary Gould and what followed is positively delightful; the language is chaste, and quaint, but not overdrawn, and very natural. Here is a bit from it. "It was not so much of my gains and losses in barter that she cared; but of some wild race, on 'scape of some great peril, and these seemed not to me of consequence in a young maids thoughts, yet would her pity grow at some stroke near death I suffered; and anon would her eyes dance for joy, yet dimmed the while, as I made good my deliverance." Just so it was that Desdemona loved Othello. 'She loved me for the dangers I had passed' and 'I did oft be-

guile her of her tears, when I did speak of some distressful stroke which my youth suffered." For the purpose of introducing legendary things a club is devised of some leading Newport gentlemen, this was in 1669. It was called the Seven Club; it had seven members, it met once in seven days, for seven weeks, at seven o'clock. The gentleman at whose house the club met was to tell a tale, and thus seven tales are told, all being more or less of the folk lore than lying loose about the country. The first tale was of the *Sea Serpent*, which creature had not obtained recognition in literature. It was near a hundred years later, when Pontoppidan described one off the Norway coast 700 feet long; since nobody has seen the creature anywhere else, he must be off the Norwegian coast even now. The second tale was of the *Goblin land*, and relates to Niagara; the third was Mr. Coddington's, entitled the *Secret Meeting* and tells of religious persecution, &c., &c., all have local legendary color. Three carefully prepared indexes bring the book to an end—an index of subjects; an index of persons and an index of places. The deaths of many prominent men and women are noted, and the volume has a distinct bearing in a genealogical way. In fact there are a great many families in Rhode Island who can trace their ancestry back to this supposed *Diarist*. The name Jefferay is indeed extinct, no male descendant here existing; but three daughters married "well" here, from each of whom long lines of descendants came. Mary Jefferay married John Greene; Susannah Jefferay married Edward Thurston; Sarah Jefferay married James Barker, and today their posterity runs among the thousands. The work is a handsome twelve mo., printed by Freeman, well bound in cloth, and sold by the author. The book has no publisher but in place of a publisher's name are the words "Limited Edition." For copies address as advertised in this BOOK NOTES.

My facetious friend of the *Central Falls Journal* sends this paragraph "marked" to BOOK NOTES "R. G. Hazards resplendent eloquence regarding higher prices is exceedingly frank. What free traders hanker after with a mighty hanker is such low prices for dudes, well-dressed loafers and codfish aristocracy that wage earners must work for starvation pay if haply they get any work to do. Great is free trade eloquence!"

Evidently my excellent friend Arnold has not given that attention to the meaning of the words "resplendent bubble" which we feeble mortals are forced to give. But don't stop at poor little BOOK NOTES but read this from the *New York Sun* concerning Mr. Hazard's effort to which BOOK NOTES made slight mention. From the *N. Y. Sun* 12th Nov.

Mr. Rowland G. Hazard's Ignorance.

MR. ROWLAND G. HAZARD of Peacedale, R. I., has contributed to the October number of a periodical called *Money*, a paper on "The Necessity for a Gold Standard," in which he delivers himself in a manner that calls for criticism.

Mr. HAZARD begins by deploring the monetary position of the nation and our discredit among other nations, because of the existence among us of a party which advocates the free coinage of silver. The result of the election of 1896, he says, was dubious, and makes cautious people timid—"the more so, as in spite of promises as fairly and squarely made as ever were any platform promises of a great political party, absolutely none of the additional safeguards solemnly pledged by the Republican party have as yet been placed about our national finances," and "no law has been written upon our statute books plainly and positively asserting that we will henceforth use our inherited standard, gold, as our standard of value." We have, he further says, in the nearly five hundred millions of silver dollars coined since 1878 "an imprisoned monster which any Congress can let loose to destroy and impoverish the land"; and he asks, in conclusion, referring to the efforts of the silverites, "Why, then, do

we not write a law upon our statute books, which shall, once for all, settle this point, and forever relieve us from possible disaster?"

We presume that Mr. HAZARD is an honest man and that he sincerely believes all that he says. What he says is, however, so contrary to the truth, that we must attribute his errors to ignorance.

For example, when he asserts that the Republican party three years ago solemnly promised in its platform to place additional safeguards about our national finances, he convicts himself of unfamiliarity with the passage in the platform relating to the subject. That passage pledged the party to no more than to maintain the gold standard until an international bi-metallic agreement could be secured. How completely the party has fulfilled its pledge, facts within the knowledge of a almost everybody but Mr. HAZARD demonstrate.

MR. HAZARD'S declaration that no law has been written upon our statute books plainly and positively asserting that we will henceforth use gold as our standard of value proves him to be also ignorant of an act of Congress passed as long ago as February, 1873. In that act the gold dollar of 25.8 grains of standard gold is plainly and positively asserted to be henceforth the only unit of value, and the silver unit is abrogated. Since 1873 we have not used any other standard than the gold dollar, and we shall not use any other until the law is changed.

That the five hundred millions of silver dollars, more or less, coined since 1878, are an imprisoned monster which any Congress can let loose, is a misstatement which hardly needs refutation. Over and over again the Treasury reports have shown that the monster, so far from being imprisoned, has long ago been let loose, and is now wandering about the land. The silver dollars over which Congress has control amount to but a few millions, the rest being in the hands of the public, either as coin, or in the shape of silver certificates representing coin.

Finally, Mr. HAZARD'S inquiry, why we do not write upon our statute book a law which shall at once and forever relieve us of the disasters he fears, shows that he is ignorant of the provisions of the Constitution of the United

States. Whatever law one Congress may write upon our statute books a succeeding Congress can wipe off, and there is no way, under the Constitution, by which a law can be made to stand forever—even if it is put into the Constitution as an amendment to that instrument.

We commend Mr. HAZARD to a study of law and history before he writes again on financial subjects.

So far as heads of families are concerned nothing is more important than honest measure of merchandise, whether it be for pounds, or quarts, or yards. The present sealer of weights and measures here is Mr. George A. Sherman. He informs BOOK NOTES that in the year 1898 he tested 27,107 weights or measures. Of this number 1,030 were either condemned or adjusted; while this may seem but a small number, it must not be forgotten that 1,030 men with 1,030 false measures can do a vast deal of swindling. The law punishes only those who use, not those who make or sell such measures. Mr. Sher-

man found milk measures in which a flat piece was soldered inside, taking the place of a gill of milk; wooden measures with a false bottom put over the real bottom; measures of wood with the tops cut down from an inch to an inch and a half; measures of wood with a new and smaller bottom, then "squeezed" and renailed, thus reducing the diameter nearly two inches; tin measures with the bottoms cut off and the measure shortened. But for a downright brazen swindle there was a spring balance with slots cut beneath and above the screw holes, so that the brass face upon which weights are indicated could be moved up or down, to be used either in buying or selling, and thus changing the weight either way five or ten pounds.

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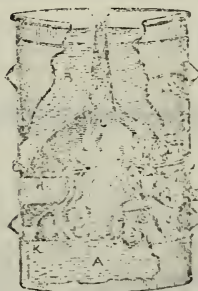
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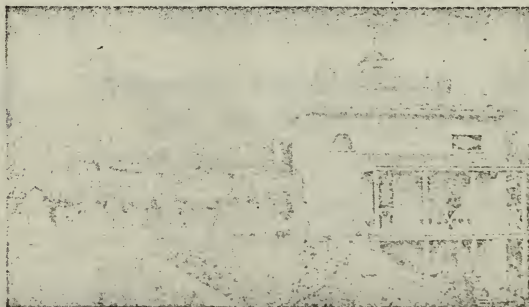
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SATURDAY, DEC. 9, 1899.

VOL. 17.
No. 25.

The New Pacific.

BY HERBERT HOWE BANCROFT.

Such is the title of a new book sent to BOOK NOTES for review. The greatest service which BOOK NOTES can do is not to review, but to describe the book, tell in short phrase what it describes and the manner of description. It opens with a concise statement of the conditions of commerce on the Pacific between the western coast of North America and the eastern coast of Asia, and between the Eastern Islands from Japan on the north even to Pitcairn's on the south. This comparison is that of fifty years ago with that of to-day; it is as if almost nothing is comparable to scores, literally scores, of steamship lines; one of these lines has 83 steamships, and there are scores of lines. Think for one moment of the new names of great commercial cities which fifty years ago were unknown even to the most learned. The Yukon, Puget's Sound, San Francisco, Vladivostock, Yokohama, Kobe, Port Arthur, Nagasaki, Tacoma, Seattle and possibly fifty more just such places. The year 1898 was one of bewildering change for the United States. From being a nation of quiet home industry, interested with nobody beyond her own borders, she becomes one of the greatest world powers in the world. But she waged no wars for conquest, solely

wars for humanity. Nowhere in history are such marvelous stories ever told, nor has history ever before been so rapidly written. Then Mr. Bancroft proceeds to tell us how it came about; how it was that the United States came to a war with Spain, and how it came to pass that a religious (so called) medieval tyranny was blown with gunpowder from this western world; how the "Maine" was blown up, and how the American people acted; how the echo of the "Maine" came back from Manila, and Cuba and Porto Rico and the Philippines (1500 islands in number) and a Ladrone, and the Sandwica group, and Samoa, came under the care of the American people. This glorious second chapter is without an equal in all the histories of the world in the grandeur of the things which it describes. Had the United States needed justification for her action it can be found in Mr. Bancroft's history (admirable for its conciseness) of the affairs in Cuba, as against the Spaniards, since 1830, even to Weyler and Blanco of our own days. All these things appear in the chapter entitled "European Barbarism in America," which becomes an admirable preparation chapter for what follows it, entitled "New Naval Tactics." "Capture or destroy the Spanish fleet" were the words of President McKinley to Commodore Dewey on the 26th of April,

1898. "I will wipe it from the ocean" came instantly from Commodore Dewey, and instantly he sailed away, his objective being the Spanish fleet, then 628 miles away, but its precise location unknown. In three days the fleet was found and every ship sunk beneath the sea. The Spanish flag had been blown with gunpowder from the Pacific, and both in the east and in the west rapine, robbery, looting, church robbery, murders and barbaric wickedness of every kind, worked with European "civilized" hands, come to an end—and even the next day civilization landed for the first time at Santiago and Havana and a few day; hence it will find homes in Luzon and in Mindanao and wheresoever the Stars and Stripes floats over the islands of the seas.

Mr. Bancroft does not here end his narrative, but continues it with some account of the "great awakening" which slowly but clearly dawned upon the American people. They stood in "awe of themselves," but in awe of nobody else. There had come a new America and a new Pacific; the old order of things had passed away. Then comes a couple of chapters concerning "Imperialism," as some desire to call it. The "Policy of Expansion" is Mr. Bancroft's title; and this he immediately follows with "Other Side of the Question." He is himself in accord with the events of the year 1898, since the Divine Master must have Himself decreed them, and so he accepts the results. Hence, he permits us to believe him to be an Imperialist; but his readers can read his history and take the other side of the question. But read his history and then ask yourselves: Shall the old order of things continue or be restored? It seems to BOOK NOTES that there can be but one answer. The United States must execute the edict of

the Divine Master. Then came the Peace, and with it came the end of American provincialism. The United States to-day governs eighty millions of men, covering 180 degrees of longitude—just one-half the circumference of the globe, and, as Mr. Bancroft says, no one doubts her ability to continue to govern. The change of the nations towards us is admirably shown in a chapter under that head; and it forms one of the most interesting chapters in the book; it is an exemplification of the French maxim—"Nothing succeeds like success," for in the beginning England alone was friendly, and at the end we had no enemy—all were friends. The "Passing of Spain" is the beginning of a funeral service; the chapter on the "Far East" shows the need of a resurrection; and now Mr. Bancroft comes to living issues, which the heads of his chapters will likewise very well show. First, in his "Europe in Asia," he shows the political aspirations of European nations for land and seaports and in the divisions of empires; then he shows what there is to "get" in his chapter on the "Pacific Ocean and its Borders;" in connection with this comes "Interoceanic Communication and the Commerce of the Pacific," which includes the "Resources," the "Climates," the "Mines," the "Manufactures," and the "Race Problems" of these islands. A special chapter is written upon Hawaii, the "Pearl of the Pacific," and another upon the "Philippine Archipelago." In the first the possibilities of agriculture are considered, and in the last the question of the Roman Catholic priests and their use in a "reformation" of the nations. The book is brought to an end with a few chapters which may be termed the "Romances;" one of these concerning "Crusoe's Island" and another "Leaves

from the Log Book of the Pirates," and so the writer leaves the reader at last enchanted with myths; but positively stunned in letting loose the imagination as to what will happen after that which has happened. Nothing so comprehensive exists in any language, and yet here it is, in one volume; it is what we call a crown octavo in size and has 738 pages, and a map, small in size, but which meets all the requirements. There is a vein of quiet satire concerning many statements of the older writers, which becomes very pleasant in view of modern knowledge. The book is excellent.

The downright "gall" of those who own the Olneyville Free Library, "founded" by James Eddy, but without giving any money, or anything else of value, is just made manifest in a petition to the City Council for an appropriation of money from the city taxpayers; to grant the petition would be a positive outrage—nearly 90 out of every 100 books used from this library are novels, not of the old classical school, but which consist largely of modern rottenness—the library is the annual recipient of the State appropriation. Money now contributed by the city tax payers will be simply to make it easier to pay the interest upon the mortgage to the Eddys or to buy more novels. Why should we be levied upon for money to buy novels for these people, or pay the interest upon their mortgages?—for it is one or the other of these two things that the City Council is asked to force us to do.

The "News" printed nearly a week since seven elaborate extracts from articles in the December *Woman's Home Companion*, at once a compliment to the Editors of this among the finest periodicals prepared specially for women, and a boon for those who read the "News."

Book Notes cannot do that; it is far too small, but it can say, in concise phrase that this woman's "paper" is chaste and wholesome and abreast of the age, in all that goes to make a monthly visitor welcome to our homes. It costs only 10 cents or but \$1.00 a year.

It is quite clear to observe what is coming hither in the musical way; note this paragraph concerning the matter in the December *Review of Reviews*:

Gustav Kobbe, the Wagnerian student and critic, gives many curious and instructive facts relative to Wagner's views of America. This information is especially interesting in view of the present remarkable popularity of Wagnerian opera in this country. A supplemental article in the *Review* outlines "The season's Promise of Grand Opera," in which Wagner again has a very large part. Both these articles are illustrated with portraits of the operatic stars of first magnitude.

The same writer gave us an article in the *November Century*, on the stage mechanism for the Wagner Operas and in New York, and compared the same with such things at Bairenth; it was "mighty" interesting.

It gives the writer downright pleasure to be able to confer a favor upon one to whom he is indebted from all his political advancements. A few days since, Gen. Brayton applied to the writer for some past years of the "Journal" Almanac and asked assistance in obtaining them; and so the writer slipped the request into the last issue of BOOK NOTES, that of Saturday, 25 Nov. On Monday, 27 Nov. came this. Mr. Sidney S. Rider, Dear Sir,—Yours as to the Journal Almanacs was received and your "add" in BOOK NOTES bore immediate fruit and I have the copies I desire, which were kindly presented to

me by Charles H. Howland of the "News." Yours, &c., C. R. Brayton. Just two things are shown by this episode. First, that there are two men of sense left in Providence, for both are readers of *Book Notes*; Second, the concrete value of *Book Notes* as an advertising medium, it goes directly to the man for whom you are looking.

The advantage of commendatory notes, upon things, in *Book Notes*, is cleverly shown in the following clipping concerning the *Ladies' Home Journal*, about which periodical *BOOK NOTES* has said so many kind things.

The circulation of *The Ladies' Home Journal* for 1899 reached the enormous aggregate of 9,815,826 copies, an average of 817,986 copies for each of the twelve issues of the year. It has been shown by a comprehensive postal canvass that each *Journal* is read by eight persons; consequently, these figures reveal the astonishing fact that each issue is read by about one person in every eight or ten in the United States who can read and write English.

The State House Commission has at last given birth to an idea—the Statue on the dome of the State House, is a member of the prize ring. Never did men so wreck themselves—The idea is silly, or at the very best commonplace.

The holiday number of the *Bookseller and Newsdealer* is just ready. It gives beautifully printed specimens of the illustrations of the coming Christmas books. A 10 cent stamp to the American News Company, Chambers Street, New York City, will bring you a copy, which copy will describe all the books, and show you the "pictures;" the number is in itself beautiful.

Here follows a note which gives the writer peculiar pleasure. *BOOK NOTES* has long taken itself, or been taken to Dr. William H. Egle, State Librarian, Harrisburg, Pa. Here is his letter: "Sidney S. Rider, Esq., Dear Sir—Please direct *BOOK NOTES* to State Library, Harrisburg, Pa. I am not there, but I am desirous that your "Notes" should be kept in the State Library. Yours with respect, William H. Egle." It is a compliment to myself

and a creditable thing on the part of Dr. Egle.

There comes to *BOOK NOTES* another beautiful catalogue of books from Little, Brown & Co.; it has 49 portraits of authors whose writings are published by this excellent house; *BOOK NOTES* would be glad to review things other than catalogues.

The *Pratt Institute Monthly* for November, which in passing, is the first number *BOOK NOTES* has seen in months, is very fine in all that goes to make the "external" attentive. The first "internal" is a paper entitled "Settlement Antecedents and Consequents." Now what would anybody suppose that title to mean? You can never guess. It means nothing, but it relates to efforts to "bring into relation the centers of culture and the centers of industry." Note the ambiguity of the sentence, it plainly says that centers of culture are not centers of industry, and yet it attempts to reform those who only labor, by sending a parcel of men who do no labor to talk to them. As a matter of fact these people begin by showing the workingman his specific contemptibility. It is just in line with those mistaken efforts to reclaim lewd women by setting up Homes of Refuge, or temporary Homes for released State prisoners. Neither ever ought to be tolerated.

The successive numbers of the *Century* seems to be more and more beautiful; when the November number came *BOOK NOTES* thought that never before had anything so fine, in the magazine line, ever been done; but now comes the December number, which fully equals, if indeed it does not surpass its elder sister. The splendid chapters by John Morley on Oliver Cromwell, are continued, but the number is given largely to Christmas matters and things. Dr. S. Weir Mitchell comes with his second installment of the "Autobiography of a Quack." The learned author is a physician from Philadelphia, of that class who give but take neither advice, nor their own prescriptions. *BOOK NOTES*, with all deference, suggests the treacherous danger of the ground the "Doctor" stands upon; go back fifty, yes, even

twenty years and eliminate "quacks" and "quackery" and what in a medical way would be left.

Why was it that civilization in advancing upon this continent was obliged to use such an agent as the Pirates of the Spanish Main, to whom no existing crime was sufficiently atrocious and new crimes had to be constantly devised. Not yet as bloody but more effective as robbery are the schemes of this century. The infamous "Protective" Tariff, and now the latest and greatest robbery ever devised—the "Currency" and the "Money" Laws. Either de-monetize gold, or re-monetize silver.

Joel Chandler Harris contributes to the Christmas number of THE SATURDAY EVENING POST an authentic account of the daring attempt to warn the Confederate cabinet of the great movement whereby Grant and Sherman were to cooperate in crushing the Confederacy.

How the attempt failed, and why it failed, are the subjects of a chapter of the little-known history of the Secret Service. Mr. Harris has his facts first-hand, and he has woven them into a story of such absorbing interest that it might easily be mistaken for pure fiction.

It is to be hoped that in looking for another Judge for the Supreme Court, the *claims* of Thomas Z. Lee will not be over looked. Anan—while you are looking don't forget that one Sweetland has a record.

Harper & Brothers, as a firm, have come after nearly eight tenths of a century of pecuniary success, to destruction; but just consider how newspapers have lied about the case. It is neither more nor less than an absolute failure.

In the matter of Trusts the northern newspapers stand in exactly the relation that the southern Press stood in relation to human Slavery in 1861.

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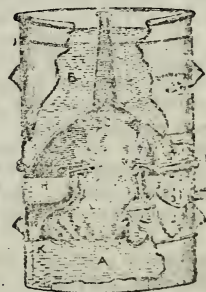
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"*Might and Right*," is the title of a book written by Frances H. Whipple and published in Providence, R. I., 1841. It is a History of the Dorr War written from the Dorr view. It has 344 pages, with a portrait of Mr. Dorr. It is now scarce. A copy will be sent by Sidney S. Rider, publisher of BOOK NOTES, to any address by post, in this country upon receipt of . . . \$1.95

Secret Proceedings and Debates of the Convention at Philadelphia, 1787, for the framing of a Constitution of the United States, from the Notes of Chief Justice Gates, of New York, and including the "Genuine Information" laid before the Legislature of Maryland by Luther Martin, with other documents relative to the Federal Compact. A copy will be sent by Sidney S. Rider to any address, by post, in this country on receipt of 99 cents. It is a 12 mo. of 335 pages.

Gov. James Y. Smith's *Special Message* to the General Assembly of R. I. in January, 1866, in which is set forth the scandalous financial management of the Rhode Island State officers in the early years of the War of the Rebellion. 8 vo. 340 pages; also the *Report* of the Joint Special Committee on the Governor's charges, with the Evidence. 8 vo. 125 pages; also the *Minority Report* of William Butler, upon the same; 8 vo. page 12. In all 3 documents of the greatest interest, and great historical value. Sent post paid by Sidney S. Rider upon receipt of . . . \$3.75

In 1842 Mr. Richard Bentley, of London, England, published a fine book in 3 vols. entitled "The Hellenes," a History of the manners and customs of ancient Greece, written by James A. St. John, in which labor he was assisted by his son, Bayle St. John. An excellent set bound in board, uncut, will be sent, post paid, to any address by Sidney S. Rider, Providence, R. I., the price being . . . \$3.75

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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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SATURDAY, DEC. 23, 1899.

VOL. 17.
No. 26.

A History of the Catholic Church in the New England States is in course of publication by a Boston firm of subscription book publishers; volume one is now ready. It gives the history of four dioceses, the second is that of Providence, which is, of course, the entire state of Rhode Island. Not often is there a finer opportunity for a historical essay than this subject presented, and never was there a greater failure to seize the opportunity. It is a mass of incoherent utterances, with no, or with scarcely any, adherence to chronological order, and filled with contradictions, some of which BOOK NOTES will presently present. The author, the Rev. Austin Dowling, thus begins (p. 343) "In spite of the love which the people of Rhode Island have always professed for "soul liberty" a law disfranchising Roman Catholics appears on the statute book" then continues the author "It appears in the first collection of laws printed, and published in 1719." This certainly is a very false and misleading paragraph; were there two collections of laws published in 1719; certainly not, there was no second collection published in that year. There can then be but one deduction for the words "First Collection." The author wishes us to think that the disfranchisement clause was in the First Collection of laws made by the Colony; but that deduction is

not true; there were two such collections made before 1719; that of 1647, first printed in 1847, by Chief Justice Staples; and that of 1705 first printed in 1896 by myself, and then printed to prove this very fact, that the disfranchisement clause did not then exist, as it most certainly did not exist. Such a treatment of a fine historical question is not an exhibition of integrity. But what has soul liberty to do with the right to vote? Nothing whatever. Every possible protection for life, and property, was given in precisely the same form to both Protestant and Catholic. This author says (p. 354) "Rhode Island never excluded Roman Catholics from her shores." He also says (p. 354) "The Disfranchisement Act was repealed in 1783, and all political rights were fully restored to Roman Catholic citizens." He also says (p. 354) "No question was even asked as to religion of the candidates for freeman." But there were no Roman Catholics here in the times of Roger Williams; we have also the testimony of the Governor in 1688 to the truth of the statement; concerning this same period the author himself says (p. 354) "There is little or no trace of the Catholic Arcadians in this colony." Again, he says (p. 355) "After the Revolution (1783) there were few, or no, Catholics in this territory." Again, he says, "In 1793 French resi-

dents (Catholics) fled from the Islands of San Domingo and Guadaloupe to Newport and Bristol." In very truth they sought and found safety and protection in Rhode Island. In 1828, the author says "There were few or no Catholics in other (than Woonsocket, Pawtucket and Providence) parts of Rhode Island, and even those who worked in these towns were few in number, and unsettled in character." (p. 356) So much for the *Religious Intolerance* of Rhode Island toward this sect. In 1812 they were given the use of a building on Sheldon Street devoted to religious services; this fact is mentioned by the author, but not in chronological sequence; in 1828, William Simons, then a very prominent editor, welcomed the coming of Father Woodsley, and urged the raising of funds for him to be used in building a church. In that same year, 1828, David Wilkinson gave the Roman Catholic Priest land at Pawtucket on which to build a church (p. 359). Both men were Protestants. The author further says that "For the years 1836-7 the City of Providence gave the Roman Catholics the free use of the "Old Town House," where the present Court House now stands, for religious services." He further says that, "in 1835 the Richmond St. "Tin Top" church was allowed to be used by Roman Catholic and Protestant alike, and there was no objection; he further says, that after the burning of the Charlestown convent in 1834, Rhode Island men offered the nuns a safe home, and protection here in Rhode Island (pp. 364-365). I have spoken of inconsistencies, and above they are shown in sufficient profusion, but I am going to add two more specimens,—the author says, "the first stone church in these parts was was the church of SS. Peter and Paul, built on High street; it was a hand-

some building" (p. 365); again "the 'old cathedral' was a monstrosity architecturally" (p. 384). Both examples cannot be true—Here is another specimen—directly following the year 1810, the author says, "presently the tide of emigration set in (p. 355); again "In 1828 there were few or no Catholics in other parts of Rhode Island (p. 356). There are certain incidents narrated which have no relation whatever to a Church History, and which ought to have been omitted. One of them is the "Dorr War." There was not the slightest element of a religious character in it, and in a historical way the narrative is misleading; so, too, with the murder of Amasa Sprague, and the hanging of a young Irishman, John Gordon, for the crime; there was in it nothing concerning religion; it was a liquor seller's revenge for refusal to grant him a license; nobody then, nor now, believed him innocent. It is but a few years since John Devlin, of Pawtucket, came to the writer for a certain document concerning this trial of Gordon, which the late U. S. Judge Knowles had placed in my keeping. At this interview Devlin described to me the coaching of the witnesses for the trial, and the place on North Main street where this was done; it was a costly job to certain Roman Catholics, whose names were given to me by Devlin. The first trial was that of John Gordon, the verdict was guilty, and he was hanged; the second trial was that of William Gordon, an *alibi* was established, and he escaped; but nobody had any belief in the truth of the *alibi*; but as I have written, there was in it nothing concerning the Roman Catholic Church; and just so it was concerning Avery, and the Methodist Church. At page 374 is given an account of the "murder" of Neil Dougherty in 1853. This was neither more nor less than a firemen's row. It took

place on Canal street. It was a free fight by a lot of rough rowdies who ran the old hand machines—there was not a spark of the religious in it,—then came the affair of Miss Newell (page 376). I remember the handbill very well, and on the night of the attack called for by the handbill the late Mr. George W. Danielson and myself walked the entire length of the street, to observe the condition. In very truth we were the only persons in sight; there was not even a ripple of excitement. But observe what this author says concerning it (p. 376), "But now these stalwart Americans believed that an end should be made of the matter" (that is, of having a convent here) and "someone suggested that a keg of powder would relieve Providence of a pest," all of which was pure nonsense. The fact that Miss Newell (whom I knew, and who was an extremely handsome young girl) was to become a nun, and enter a convent staggered all sensible men, and it was upon that, that her folly was discussed, and she repented. All these things should have been omitted, they have no place in any Church History. But I protest against this book that Rhode Island is deserving of a fairer and better treatment at the hands of Roman Catholic writers than she has ever had. As I have shown from this author's own statements nothing but kindness and toleration on Rhode Island's part was ever done. Can the Roman Catholic Church say as much toward those men who did not believe her doctrines. Look back into history—ye men who doubt—Those who write the history of this Church must give us something different from that which Mr. Dowling has given us. Are the men of the 17th and the earlier years of the 18th centuries to be blamed for hesitating to put into the hands of the Papal Government the foundation of a

new State whose foundations were to be laid upon the principle of Soul Liberty. Even to-day could such a thing be done with safety? Mr. Dowling is himself my best authority, for he condemns himself.

The editor of the *Telegram* sent to BOOK NOTES "The *Telegram's* Progress in Ten Years." The ten years being the time covered by the present corporation, ownership and management. It was a history, not of the evolution of the paper, but of the material progress of the paper, as illustrated by the growth of its plant, made necessary by the increased and increasing circulation of the paper. It has now entered a road, very broad, and very wide, and is fully equipped for the great journey upon which it has fairly started. But it is not my purpose, nor is it needful for BOOK NOTES to write of the material growth of the *Telegram*, for that is what everybody sees, and nobody can fail to see. The *Telegram* has grown and has not yet finished growing. My purpose was to suggest the intellectual development, and broad growth of the paper which the last years of the present management have made so manifest. It cannot be denied that the present management entered upon their task handicapped by the preceding ten years of life which the *Telegram* had lived; but now all that is changed. The *Telegram* is clean; the characters of men and women are safe in its columns; it has courage; it speaks clearly and well upon the political crimes of the times; its enterprise, it is quite abreast of the age; compared with surrounding papers it is newsy, and certainly as fair as any paper now published here. These things BOOK NOTES writes with downright pleasure, for there have been things done in former years which the writer has severely condemned, and

would again condemn, but all this is changed, and the *Telegram* has entered upon its fifth act, let BOOK NOTES pre-
 sage for it a glorious career. It has after many weeks of preparation occupied its new quarters in the Lauderdale building, on Westminster street, just west of the Arcade. The *Telegram* was ushered into life in 1879, by Mr. Charles C. Corbett as a Sunday newspaper. In 1881 Mr. Corbett entered into partnership with Mr. David O. Black, the firm being Corbett & Black. The Sunday *Telegram* was continued, and the Daily Evening *Telegram* began life. In 1882 this firm was dissolved, Mr. Corbett left for Chicago, and Mr. Black became the sole owner of the *Telegram*. Mr. Black continued the publisher until 1889, when a corporation was formed, and thenceforth the *Telegram* was owned and published by the corporation. The home of the *Telegram* under Mr. Corbett was at 57 Weybosset street, upstairs; Mr. Black took it down upon the street, to No. 23, and subsequently to No. 7, of the same street; later, the office was removed to No. 2 Weybosset street, from which it has just taken its westward leap—before this time the travels of the *Telegram* had been eastward. Doubtless the editor had found Bishop Berkeley's famous verse:

Westward, the course of empire takes its way;

The first four acts already past,

A fifth shall close the drama with the day,

Time's noblest offspring is the last.

Curiously enough the present home of the *Telegram* is the *fifth* which it has occupied, and certainly, the "noblest was the last." The happy application of the spirit of this poem is unique.

My excellent contemporary the Central Falls *Visitor* is of course an authority in matters concerning "Protection," and "Free Trade." This is shown by fact that the Editor's opinions are

always reproduced in the *American Economist*. He believes that the tremendous financial success of American Sewing women is due to the Tariff on Sewing Machines. He thinks that in order to make sewing women grow rich it is only necessary to issue a hundred patents upon each machine; then put a 45 per cent ad valorem tariff upon them, and money will flow—into the sewing woman's pocket. But we had not supposed that the learned Editor had touched so clearly the sore spot in the matter of bookselling, but in spite of my ignorance here it is:

Harper and Bros. owe Millions,
 and we are surprised that a concern, conducted with such useless extravagance, back-numberism and utter disregard of well-known financial rules that make for success, ever managed to keep its head above the whelming monetary billows of wreck and ruin all through the flood-tide of Wilson tariff disaster.

Now while it is clear to my excellent friend that the Wilson tariff was the direct cause of the Harper failure, a proposition which *Book Notes* will not now, and here, undertake to question, it would, nevertheless, give the writer great pleasure if my learned friend would explain this clipping from the N. Y. *Times* two weeks since. It was written by A. J. W. the London Financial Correspondent, as the Providence Journal says "our own" "The only places where I fear that credit is worn rather thin are two or three of the newer big banks; one or two private banks mixed up with our book publishing trade, which is in a somewhat rotten condition, and the Scotch banks, two at least of which are in danger of drowning in whisky."

Is the London book publishing trade also indebted to the Wilson Tariff for its "somewhat rotten condition." Harper & Brothers owed, and now owe, above Three millions of dollars, with assets largely in "stereotype plates of books

now no longer salable; how much more than type metal are these plates worth. Just now comes another illustration of "back numberism" in the Squire failure; this time it is not useless books, but pork, and lard, and food, and the debt is more than even the Harpers Three Millions. Will my excellent friend charge this also to Wilson Tariff, or to the "Whelming monetary billows of wreck and ruin" no my dear friend these events are merely the echoes of the business boom; only an illustration of Mr. R. G. Hazard's "resplendent bubble of our present prosperity" which my very learned friend so highly commended. My acute friend is now seriously told, that most of the food of the laboring masses has advanced in price to the consumer from 20 to 50 per cent, and yet the Squires failed and carried Banks down with them. My worthy friend must overhaul his logic on somebody will retort "back numberism."

My clever contemporary the Pawtucket Gazette of this week presents two editorials of interest, the first entitled *an abundance of money*—the second *metallic Riches*. Here is the first:

"The somewhat surprising statement comes from the Treasury Department that over two billions of dollars are in circulation. Yet nobody feels that there is any need of contraction. Hundreds of millions of gold coin have been struck, and hundreds of millions of treasury notes and bank bills are in the hands of the people, and yet there is a scarcity in harvest time. To gather and move the crops demands hundreds of millions of dollars, and New York is straitened every autumn. Meanwhile our gold mines are yielding more than ever before, and the facilities of our mints are taxed almost beyond measure" and Secretary Gage is buying bonds to relieve the money market, and anticipating the

payment of interest; the Boston Clearing House has issued many millions of clearing house certificates—the Squires fail; banks fail, Harpers fail, interest advances, and stocks have shrunk in one month. Millions of dollars—such is business prosperity. My friends second editorial is this:

"The exports from our country are enormous. Not only do we ship to other lands the fruits of our soil, but we are forwarding the products of our mines" on December 8 last, a steamer from New York carried to Europe 554,000 ounces of silver—nearly 24 tons. Is this what my friend means by "metallic riches," which the rich men have induced congress to destroy; an act which robbed every poor debtor in this country; this my friend would at last discern, if he like myself owed debts.

OLNEYVILLE FREE LIBRARY.

Dec 12 1899.

My. Sidney S. Ryder,

Dear Sir:

In the recent issue of BOOK NOTES is a statement about the above library which I should like to correct. Of course BOOK NOTES, desires above all things the *truth*.

By referring to the last issue of the Commissioners Report (1898) he will find the statement of all the free libraries in the State.

I will enclose a comparison with the Pawtucket and Providence Libraries, as they are some of the important ones and near us.

You will see that comparing Olneyville Library with the Prov. and Pawtucket that we have in Circulation.

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Biog.	4.8	1.6	5.5
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Lit.	2.4	1.7	2.3
Fiction	61.7	75.9	56.7
Miss.	5.1	8.	8.1

As most of our books are bought with the State App—and approved by State Board of Education, they must be held responsible for the "rotteness" you speak of

The above tells its own story.

The librarian would be most happy to welcome Mr Ryder to the library and have him judge for himself of the truth of his statement

Respectfully,

MRS. HARRIET H. RICHARDSON, lib.

BOOK NOTES prints with pleasure Mrs. Richardson's letter. BOOK NOTES (as the lady says) "desires above all things the truth"—but the lady's letter does not contribute to that end; as the lady says "the letter tells its own story." She cites the Commissioners report as authority, but she herself gave

the figures which so far as the Olneyville Library is concerned they printed. Does anybody who knows the literary constituencies of Providence, and Pawtucket, and Olneyville believe that fewer novels are read at Olneyville by from 5 to 19 per cent than are read in the two former cities. It is pure nonsense. A visit to the Library by myself could result in the discovering of no new fact. I know the lady, I know the Library, I know the constituency, what more could I learn by spending a half hour in the lady's agreeable company—nothing surely about books, and bookish conditions. No, these percentages, are different solely by reason of classifications by different person. The Providence Tax Payers ought not to be mulcted for the purposes of this Library.

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